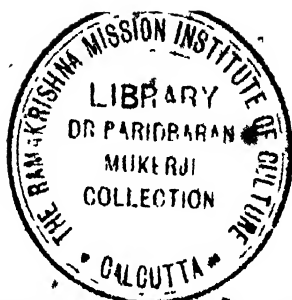


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THE SCIENCE OF THE SACRED WORD

BEING A SUMMARISED TRANSLATION

OF

THE PRANAVA-VADA

OF

GARGYAYANĀ

BY

BHAGAVAN DAS

with notes by Annie Besant and an Appendix by

Louise Appel, M B., B.S., B.Sc.

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PRANAVA-VADA

V O L. I.

THE STRANGE STORY OF A HIDDEN BOOK

I.

A STORY

A GREAT land, and a great race living its large life thereon: majestic mountains crowned with silent snows; encircling seas; vast gorges in which torrents lost themselves; forests of stately trees and flowering plants and creepers in festoons; broad-rolling rivers; awesome cataracts, dazzling cascades and sprayful waterfalls; incessant-brawling brooks and limpid rills and rivulets; all teeming with wild life, gentle and innocent or mighty and compelling, gorgeous insects, flashing fish, and birds and beasts of high and low degree—all the poetry of living nature:

Great temples; beautiful homes, full-spaced; broad paths; fair market-places; uḍyānas, pleasure-parks and bathing tīrthas; raṅgas, places of plays and poems, palaces of art, kalā-gr̥has; chariots and cars; bulls and dromedaries of the finest breeds, and elephants and horses trained and beautified with utmost skill—all the poetry of life-enhancing art:

Peace and contentment; mutual help and love and service; stately courtesies and ways of gracefulness; well-balanced, well-divided industry and ease; all-rounded knowledge; scripture chant and high and holy hymn—all the poetry of human life was there.

Strong and fair and youthful were the bodies of the race. But the Jivas were very old, and long experience in their many previous births had taught them well how sin was ever hunted down and torn in pieces by sure misery. And sinless therefore was the race. And, therefore, too, the Earth's benignity flowed forth to it in unchecked plenty. As the men were just and gentle to each other and to all beings, so the elemental gods that ever give to men what they desire and deserve, shaping their ways to men's deserts and wishes, were also clement unto them. And Mother Earth took pleasure in her children, and, in her vast and joyful dance around the sun, bore her rounded body so that all physical circumstances of wind and wave and sunshine were adjusted to their comfort, and they were happy even as yearling babes rolling and leaping in their mother's lap.

And so that happy elder race lived its large life. But a day came when they should pass away to other worlds and new experiences.

A deep and solemn forest of gigantic pines on a great mountain slope within the land. A hermitage of peace and calm and quiet. A hoary sage and students young and old in a large number.

“My children,” said the sage, “the time has come when our race, having lived its appointed round of experiences here, must pass further onwards. You, who are the youngest of the race, are not yet fit to pass on with it. Your studies are not yet complete, and more experience has to be gathered by you all. Your faculties are not all evenly developed and well balanced. Some have grown in power and action greatly ; others have grown in noble feeling of emotion ; others yet are working for a newer and a larger life of subtler senses for acquiring knowledge, and of finer instruments for doing action. But not until there is a union and a perfect balance of all the three constituents of the Jīva’s life on one plane, may it progress into another plane efficiently.

“This balance and perfection are not gained till Jīvas do attain the middle point of the life of that plane and pass, through a *vairāgya* and a surfeit that includes all the selfish pleasures of that plane, into touch with the All-Self-Consciousness, and thereby learn to live for others than their own particular selves. Therefore your future destiny is that you shall work as pioneers of

a still younger race of Jivas, that shall gradually be born within the land, heralding its arrival by great wars and times of much disquiet and unrest, and shall take possession of the flesh-houses left by the present race for their benefit. You too shall take birth again and again amongst them, and in the teaching and serving of them shall you yourselves learn and advance. And older ones from us shall not be absent. They shall remain behind as may be necessary, and watch and help and guide as may be fit.

“The great store of knowledge gathered by this older race for the profit of humanity shall lie hidden for long ages in such manner that it shall not be gained easily by those that would misuse it. But yet shall true and earnest seekers never fail to find it. Public spread thereof will be only when, and be only to the degree that, the elements of unity and harmony in the new race predominate over the elements of separation and discord, and a fair number of that race find conditions favorable enough for searching publicly for it, and give the guarantee, by their good life, that they shall use the knowledge well.

“Ye shall know the arrival of that time when the older and younger among you, born in different physical races, shall recognise your common spiritual ancestry and come together

and work together openly, making no distinction of outer caste or creed or colour or race or sex ; and some shall bring to that inner commonwealth an independent re-discovery of some of these large truths of physical science that now are known to you, and some of metaphysic and psychology and ethic, and others of knowledge through the superphysical senses of the superphysical planes, and some shall be taught directly by the elders staying behind, and others shall carry away entire and by sheer force of strong memory, whole works in sacred Samskr̥t lying hidden purposely in families selected for the keeping of them thus. And so, with spread of knowledge, spread of love, and spread of mutual help, a happier time shall come over the suffering lands and men shall join to form a new race in imitation of the present, and haply rise to greater heights even than this ! So, fare ye well ! ”

If thy Soul is sad within thee,
 Hung'ring, thirsting, after peace,
 Come with me, belov'd ! believe me,
 Read, I promise, doubts shall cease.

When the Master gave the secret,
 “ 'Tis the last in terms of sound,”
 So he said, and “ Go, proclaim it,
 Say the lost word has been found.

They who list' and ponder deeply,
They shall find all life made new
By this sweet voice of the silence,
Wisdom's dawn on pity's dew.
Knowing this, the Final Knowledge,
Seek whate'er ye wish and find.
For the mind that knoweth truly
Must have left ill wish behind.
And to him who wisheth rightly,
Not for self but for the race,
Aye the Guardians of the Wisdom
Show the Glories of Its Face.
Ask of Air and Fire and Water
And the Holy Ones of Earth
For the secrets held for seekers
Who have found the second birth—
Not that *ye* may have the secrets,
But for all pure souls are one,
And that so may fuller service
To our suffering race be done.
And, lest even now ye falter,
Fix gaze on what brooks no seeing,
Ever list' to what is Soundless
Hold fast That which hath no being ! ”

II. A HISTORY

PAṆḌIT DHANARĀJA

In the winter of 1896-1897, being then in the service of the Government of India, and posted, with judicial and revenue duties, at the town of Bārābankī (near Lucknow, the famous capital of the Indian province of Oudh), I came across Paṇḍit Dhanarāja, at the house of Paṇḍit Parmeshri Dās, a practising lawyer and pleader for Government in the Court of Wards Department, a grey-haired fellow-member of the Theosophical Society (repeatedly mentioned in Colonel Olcott's *Old Diary Leaves*) and a dear friend who has now passed away (in October 1908). The impressions that I then received as to Paṇḍit Dhanarāja were described by me at the time in letters to my elder brother, Bābū Govinda Dās (then an Honorary Magistrate and Municipal Commissioner in Benares), and a great hunter after and collector of rare Samskr̥t manuscripts. Extracts from these letters were published by him in the *Prashnoṭṭara* (now called *Theosophy in India*), the monthly organ of the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society, for the months of March, April, and May, 1897. Portions of these extracts were copied in the *Lucifer* (afterwards THE THEOSOPHICAL REVIEW) of London, for May,

1897. I think it best, on the whole, for the purposes of this narrative, to reprint the extracts here, though they are scarcely written in a style suitable for publication.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PRASHNOTTARA
(*Extracts from some Private Letters*)

[NOTE.—The following three extracts from private letters are printed in the hope that members situated favourably and having local facilities may try their hands and fortune at MS.-hunting in the districts of Gorakhpur and Basti. Many members have had the opportunity of making the acquaintance of Paṇḍit Dhana-rāja, referred to in these extracts, at the last Annual Convention of the Indian Section held at Benares in October, 1896, and will probably remember him.—SUB-ED.]

AN OLD-WORLD PAṆḌIT

. . . . Paṇḍit Dhana-rāja is blind of both eyes; he is scarcely twenty years old; yet it is calculated that he carries in his memory a mass of Samskr̥t literature equal to about thirty *Mahābhāraṭas* in bulk. The statement is not easily believable, especially when we are told that this mass comprises writings on all subjects—the ‘original’ works on Grammar by Maheshvara (Shiva), on Kosha (Lexicography) by Gaṇeśha, on Chhan-ḍah (Metre) by Viṣṇu, on Cosmogony by Kṛṣṇa, etc., etc. And yet I am convincing

myself gradually that the statement represents ... truth. I say I am convincing myself gradually, for I freely confess that I am not quite convinced yet.

Paṇḍit Dhanarāja says that from the age of about five upwards he has been doing nothing else than 'committing to memory' at an average rate of about 1,000 shlokas every day. His work ceased about a year or so ago; and he is now setting about to digest and assimilate his vast mental meal. He studied at the house of a family of Paṇḍits in his native village, where the paramparā, succession, has come down, and where the books are yet found, the very names of which have been long forgotten by, and are now unknown to, the modern generation of Paṇḍits.

From glimpses afforded by Dhanarāja, the older books, put side by side with the vast waste and desert of words called the modern Samskr̥t literature known to us—*Vyākaraṇa* and *Nyāya*, and even the greater portion of *Veḍānta* and *Sāṅkhya* and *Veḍa*-commentary and *Mīmāṃsā* and *Dharma-Shāstra*, etc., etc., including books plagiarised, books bodily stolen, books written in pure spite and intolerance, and books written for mere display of learning—appear to be as well-cultivated gardens full of healthy flower and fruit and fragrance beside the desert sands of Sahara.

I do not mean to say that what is now available to the general public does not contain . . . that which will bring peace to the mind of the man tossed with doubts, philosophy proper. This has been left by a kind destiny, though it is enveloped in and surrounded by an immense mass of verbiage on other subjects. But the next degree of literature . . . on the secret sciences and on Physiology, Chemistry, Astronomy, etc., etc., has disappeared and carried off with it all the *rahasya*, secret, of them.

The modern disciple of Pāṇinī, with much waste of ingenuity and endeavour to “touch the nose round the back of the head,” as the Hindī proverb says, will explain at some pages’ length why the “i” sound followed by the “u” sound amalgamates with the latter into the “yu” sound. Paṇḍit Dhanarāja says that the older Grammar gives the *physiological* reason why.

The magnificent hymn, in the *Durgā-Sapṭaśatī*, by the rescued Devas to the victorious Goddess, is in the Vāsanta-tilakā metre. The modern metrist has nothing more to say as to why that particular metre was used, than that such was the whim of the author, or at most that the rules of propriety required it. Paṇḍit Dhanarāja explains that the old books say that in the *ārta* or painful and refuge-seeking state of mind the Devas were then in, the Maḍhyamā and Saindhavi (nerves belonging to the apparatus

of articulation apparently) are affected and come into play, with the consequence that the sounds uttered can take no other metrical arrangement than the "Vasanta-tilakā." Possibly the full explanation is based deep down on the physics and mathematics of sound, but even this much *sounds* very useful.

The promises held out, then, are great. It would be well indeed if they were realised. But the difficulties are many. The MSS. out of which Paṇḍit Dhanarāja was taught are unavailable. They are kept away with jealous care from the reach of the inquisitive public. And Paṇḍit Dhanarāja, though willing to dictate all he has in his memory, cannot be provided with a writer sufficiently fast to reduce any tolerable portion of his stores into writing. Paṇḍit Parmeshri Dās, who has been recently contributing to the *Theosophist* some articles on the older Grammar, etc., with the help of this marvellous Paṇḍit, is doing all he can in the matter, but however thankful we may be for what he has done we cannot but feel that it is not enough by far. If some system of short-hand Devanāgarī could be devised by a Theosophical brother sufficiently ingenious, it would be a great help indeed—though we must always be prepared for disappointment even after all these old books have become lipi (writing) from Smṛti (memory). Such disappointment is by no means the

unfrequent lot of Theosophical students ! The first view has often aroused surging hopes of the promised land of milk and honey ; while a nearer view has often dissipated the illusion and shown that that first spectacle was a mere mirage indeed.

AN OLD-WORLD PAṆḌIT'S LIST
OF OLD-WORLD BOOKS

. . . I asked Paṇḍit Dhanarāja to give me a list of the 'real, original' works (Mūla-Granthas) on every subject treated of in the Samskr̥ṭ tongue—a list that should form a complete Encyclopædia of Samskr̥ṭ learning in all departments into which such learning had extended (which, according to Paṇḍit Dhanarāja, means all departments whatsoever of possible human knowledge, of course!). I added, as a condition, that the list should be self-complete, such that the fortunate possessor of the books mentioned therein should be independent of other help for intelligence of them. And the Paṇḍit readily gave me such a list out of a work by Gobhila, called *Shāstrānubhava*, wherein, he said, such a list had already been framed and put away. I reproduce the list below :—

I.—*Shabḍa-Shāstra* (the Science of Sounds).

	<i>Grantha-saṅkhyā</i>
	(In numbers of
	Shloka-measures)
1. <i>Vyākaraṇa</i> (Grammar)	
• <i>Sūtras</i> , by Maheshvara }	
<i>Bhāṣya</i> , by Nārada }	. . . 100,000

2. *Kośha* (Etymology and Dictionary)

Nirukṭa, by Gaṇeśha }	. . .	55,000
Bhāṣya, by Sheṣha }		
3. *Chhandah* (Metre)

Chhandārnava, by Viṣṇu . . .	172,000
------------------------------	---------
4. *Jyotiṣha* (Astronomy and Astrology)

Bṛhadāṅka-pradīpta, by Sūrya . . .	100,000
------------------------------------	---------
5. *Shikṣhā* (Philology, etc.)

Shikṣhā, by Maheshvara }	. . .	90,000
Bhāṣya, by Nārada }		
6. *Kalpa* (the Science of "Constructions")

Vyavasthānubheḍa, by Devī . . .	248,000
---------------------------------	---------

(*Jyotiṣha* forms part of *Shabḍa-Shāstra* for some mysterious reasons, which Paṇḍit Dhanarāja promises to explain at future leisure. A *shloka*-measure means thirty-two syllables.)

II.—*Darshana* (Philosophy)

1. *Veḍānta*.

Prāhikṣha-Pradīpa, by Brahmā . . .	436,000
------------------------------------	---------
2. *Sāṅkhya*.

Anubhava, by Marīchi . . .	308,000
----------------------------	---------
3. *Nyāya*.

Prabhāntarikṣha, by Svāyambhū . . .	215,000
-------------------------------------	---------
4. *Mīmāṃsa*.

Arthaprakāsha, by Āṅgirāḥ . . .	205,000
---------------------------------	---------
5. *Vaiśeṣhika*.

Darshanānubhava, by Kṛatu . . .	275,000
---------------------------------	---------
6. *Yoga*.

Vṛttijitārnava, by Chyamana . . .	150,000
-----------------------------------	---------

III.—*Smṛti* (Law)

- | | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Manusmṛti | 24,000 |
|---------------------|--------|

IV.—*Veda*

1. *R̥k-Samhitā* 432,000 *R̥chās*

28 Brāhmaṇas	75,000 <i>Shlokas</i>
42 Upaniṣats	200,000 „
2. *Yajus-Samhitā* 250,000 *R̥chās*

22 Brāhmaṇas	100,000 <i>Shlokas</i>
60 Upaniṣats	105,000 „

3.	Sāma-Samhitā	. . . . .	600,000	Ṛchās
	21 Brāhmaṇas	. . . . .	150,000	Shlokas
	90 Upaniṣhaṭs	. . . . .	200,000	„
4.	Atharva-Samhitā	. . . . .	300,000	Ṛchās
	11 Brāhmaṇas	. . . . .	80,000	Shlokas
	52 Upaniṣhaṭs	. . . . .	100,000	„

UPAVEḌA

V.—*Āyurveḍa* (Medicine)

Chakrānuveśha by Sanaka 392,000

VI.—*Dhanurveḍa* (Archery)

Praveshāstra-Prakāśha, by Prachetāh . . . 300,000

VII.—*Gāndhārva-veḍa* (Music)

Svarānuvāḍa, by Nārada 136,000

VIII.—*Kāraṇyopaveḍa*

Siddhāntopanyasta, by Ashvinī-)
Kumāra) 432,000

(This, the fourth Upaveḍa, is said to comprise the sciences of commerce, agriculture, cattle, architecture, law, etc., *i.e.*, briefly, all things relating to man's social life. The current name is *Sthapātya* or *Shilpopaveḍa*.)

IX.—*Kāma Shāstra* (The Science of Love)

Dehitānubhava, by Pulastya 150,000

The above list exhausts all the four 'objects of human life,' *Dharma*, *Artha*, *Kāma*, and *Mokṣha*.

Printed in royal 8vo volumes of 800 pages each, every page containing fifteen shlokas on an average—this total of 6,380,700 shlokas would form a compact little library of 500 volumes, roughly; nothing surprising, by any means, seeing that twenty times that number of volumes is disgorged annually by the press of

England alone! But what *is* surprising is that Paṇḍit Dhanarāja, while modestly denying that he has the whole by heart, yet admits that he carries in his memory at least a good two-thirds of it, besides another ten lakhs or so in miscellaneous literature, novels and histories (yes, *novels* and *histories*) and Purāṇas and modern works!

Let us see if Paṇḍit Dhanarāja can justify his statements, and make good his promise to a wondering and grateful humanity, or whether we are forced to content ourselves in the end with saying that the Paṇḍit said things that were not true, and that his were mere words. . .

THE LAST OF THE OLD-WORLD PAṆḌITS?

. . . Old MS.-hunter as you are, did you not look with longing eyes at the list I sent you last? ...What hopes...it must have aroused! What ideas of revolutionising Oriental scholarship, of giving an irresistible impulse to the study of Samskr̥t all over the world, of helping the young and growing races of the West! To a child of India it must seem that a discovery of such records would be pregnant with much more profit and use than the treasures of literature which King Menelik of Abyssinia has recently promised to throw open to the research of western scholars within his dominions. Alas! the profit and the use that there may be, will be for Europe, juvenescent and vigorous, not for

our superannuated race now in the senility and dotage that precede death. Her scientists would make each hint the starting point of a new science, the counterpart of which we had, perhaps, but have no more. This is but as it should be. Every fact is its own best justification. The fact that arts and sciences have been lost, and the books that described and taught them gone out of sight, in itself shows clearly that the race has deteriorated and grown weak and unfit to possess them. What is left to do is to help as far as may be to transfer the spirit of the dying giant to the thriving babe.

The old order changeth, yielding place to now,
And God fulfils Himself in many ways.

And we ought loyally to help on the new ways. . . . So I have been digressing and building castles in the air which, as in others, so in this case, have to end in disillusionment (for which I have already prepared you) and vanish like the fabric of a vision, but not exactly without leaving a wrack behind. Circumstances have occurred which have given rise to grave doubts as to the ability of Paṇḍit Dhanarāja to "justify the ways" of himself "to men." Alas! for the old, old perversity of the human mind that made Dhṛtarāṣṭra cry out: "I know the right and yet cannot abide therein; I know the wrong and yet cannot refrain therefrom." While talking so profusely of the wondrous

hidden store of lore on every matter of interest to humanity, he seems to be very chary of giving the clue to where it may be found. To take down whole works to his dictation seems a very long and desolately laborious task. But even that has been attempted by Paṇḍit Parmeshrī Dās, for nothing is too difficult for the labour of love; and many works have been so begun, amongst them a marvellous *Bhāṣhya* on the *Bhagavad-Gītā*, professing to explain much of the esoteric meaning thereof, by the same Gobhila as has been mentioned before as the author of *The Survey of Samskr̥t Literature*, out of which the list has been given to you, but somehow or other none of them has been finished, with the single exception of a *Sāmyāyana Kosha*, which has been completed in 8,000 and odd shlokas, taken down to dictation from the lips of the Paṇḍit. This last work is a sort of lexicon and book of rules as to how works and words are to be interpreted, with reference to the special subject they treat of, the time and place and other circumstances they appertain to, the persons they are addressed by and to, etc., etc. But the misfortune as regards this single work that *is said* by the Paṇḍit to have been completed, as well as with regard to the many other works which have been begun but never finished, is that the style is more often than not so entirely "archaic" (to put the matter

most mildly), that it is impossible for an ordinary layman, whose scholarship extendeth not beyond the range of modern Samskr̥t, to say whether the collocation of letters carries any sense at all in it or is mere 'abracadabra'.

But whatever the value of this particular man and his statements may be, there is little doubt—as I have learnt from independent sources also—that old and valuable MSS. and great learning do exist in the country “beyond the Sharayū,” forming the districts of Gorakhpur and Bastī, and that there is a race of Paṇḍits dwelling scattered over that tract, who, unlike the Paṇḍits of most of our cities, are not forced to make of their knowledge their sole means of livelihood, but, possessing independent means, as small land-owners or large cultivators, prosecute their studies amongst themselves in that right spirit of love and reverence of learning for the sake of learning which is its best and tenderest fosterer, though most unfortunately under the vow, it seems, that they will not impart their knowledge to any other than a Sharayū-pāriṇa Brāhmaṇa. We may and do regret the vow in the interests of the world at large, but I cannot but admire the principle that prompts it.

The above extracts show amply the indecisiveness of the impressions then produced on me by the personality and the conversation of Paṇḍit

Dhanarāja. To these I now add an account of the troubles and tantalisations undergone by **Paṇḍiṭ Parmeṣhri Dās** on account of this phenomenal person, whom he was the first to discover for practical purposes. Of course I had had many talks with him about the matter previously, but I took down from his mouth, systematically, for this introduction, a complete account of his experiences from the very beginning up to date, on the 25th October, 1903, when he was in Benares, on a short visit. He gave the account in Hindī, from which I put it in English.

PAṆḌIṬ PARMESHRI DĀS' NARRATIVE

I FIRST began to take an interest in the Samskr̥ṭ language in 1894, so far as I can remember, when I was about fifty years of age, after coming across an account, in a newspaper, of a lecture by Mrs. Besant, delivered in Calcutta, wherein she strongly advocated the study of Samskr̥ṭ.

My beginnings were very modest. I began, indeed, with Devanāgarī and the Hindī vernacular, which I did not know well, having studied Urdū and Persian at school and college. From Hindī and Devanāgarī I passed on to Samskr̥ṭ, taking up the *Bhagavad-Gītā* to begin with, naturally, as will be easily understood.

The difficulties I met with in properly understanding the language of the *Gītā* compelled me to think of studying Samskr̥ṭ grammar. I

went to a Shāstrī, teaching in a local school, and promptly got by heart the first fourteen sūtras of Pāṇinī, reported by tradition to have been received by him direct from Shiva after much penance and propitiation, and forming the foundation of the rest of Pāṇinī's grammar.

But now arose a difficulty. The misfortune of having been a practising lawyer for over twenty years, at the time I engaged the Shāstrī to help me across the depths of Samskr̥t grammar, compelled me to ask him why there were only fourteen sūtras and not fifteen or thirteen; why there were only so many vowels and so many consonants, and not more or less; why, even amongst those that were enumerated in these aphorisms, the particular order observed had been followed, why *a* preceded, and *i* followed and *u* succeeded, etc.

The Shāstrī came to a standstill. I tried to pull him along a little further; but our mutual perplexities became more and more tangled every day. I sought other help. The same results. My collection of Samskr̥t grammars, old and new, eastern and western, grew more and more complete. So did my discontent with them. The thing weighed on me like a nightmare. Why *were* there only and exactly fourteen aphorisms and forty-two (or counting also the repetition of one) forty-three letters enumerated in them, and why *were* they arranged in that

particular order? My very sleep was affected. My daily prayers began to include a petition for help on this particular point!

Months passed. It was June of 1894, I believe, and I was still rubbing my eyes in bed early one morning, preparatory to getting up, when I was informed that two men had arrived at the house, one of them blind, and that they wanted to see me. Against my usual custom, I went straight from my bed to the doorway of the house. I saw two men. One was under twenty, possibly not more than eighteen, blind of both eyes, one eye sunken, the other bulging with a sightless, distorted and swollen eyeball. The other man was of almost the same age. Neither had anything else on than a loin-cloth. I asked them who they were and what they wanted.

"We want a meal and enough money to carry us to Cawnpore."

"Are you literate?"

The blind man said: "Yes."

"What have you studied?"

"Samskr̥ṭ."

"Why are you going to Cawnpore?"

"I hope to get some work there in connection with the Ārya-Samāj."

"What emoluments?"

"Rs. 5 or Rs. 7 *per mensem* for a teachership."

"Do you know the *Siddhānta-Kaumudī*?"

"Yes."

“All right; I will see you again; rest and eat in the meanwhile.”

The blind man gave his name as *Ḍhanarāja*, and that of his companion as *Chandra Bhāla*.

I saw them again in the afternoon, and we had some little talk on *Samskr̥t* grammar. We met again in the evening. Then I could not wait any longer and propounded my standing difficulty.

The blind man said: “Yes, I can answer all your questions.”

“Out of your own intelligence, or from some old book?”

“From old books.” This was good news. “But,” he added, “I have not got the books; I only know them by heart.”

A few days later, after he had settled himself in the house, I began taking down to his dictation a series of *Samskr̥t* verses, mostly in the *anuṣṭup* metre. I took down about 1,500. They constituted a dialogue between *Shiva* and *Pārvaṭī*, in which the latter asked the very same questions that had been puzzling me, and the former answered them in a way that was quite satisfactory to me, at least, and at the time.

I do not now remember whether he mentioned the name of this work, but he said that it was complete in those 1,500 couplets. He added, however, on further inquiry, that if I wanted more details on *Samskr̥t* grammar I should find

them in complete fulness in the *Nāraḍīya-Bhāṣhya* on the *Māheshvara-Vyākaraṇa*.

I had been also studying pieces of the *Siddhānta-Kaumudī*, relating to sandhi (the coalescence of letters and sounds) with the man, all the while becoming more and more discontented with the vṛttis (explanations of Pāṇinī's aphorisms) contained in the work, and obtaining better explanations from the blind Paṇḍit himself, out of his mnemonic resources, as regards the physiological reasons for these coalescences. I preserved notes of these perpetual "whys" of mine and "because" of his.

My next manuscript-enterprise was more ambitious. I began writing to Dhanarāja's dictation the *Nāraḍīya-Bhāṣhya*, which he said, extended over 60 or 62,000 couplets, all verse. I took down about 500 or 600 of these.

Then I began to question him about the *Māheshvara-Vyākaraṇa* (of which the *Nāraḍīya-Bhāṣhya* was said by him to be an extended commentary). He began to dictate and I to write. To the best of my recollection, he said there were 5,000 aphorisms in the work. I wrote down about a thousand. I found that the order and arrangement of the sub-divisions of the subject was exactly the same as in the modern *Siddhānta-Kaumudī*. But the aphorisms were entirely different, and the illustrations and examples were all Vaidika-looking, and very

numerous and lengthy, and full of compounds difficult to pronounce. In connection with this difficulty of pronunciation, after giving me a number of inconsistent replies, first saying that the current *Shikṣhā* (a set of rules for pronunciation, etc., forming a sort of supplement to the current grammar) was genuine, and then that the one published by Ḍayānanda Sarasvaṭi (the founder of the Ārya Samāj) was genuine, he ultimately said that the original *Shikṣhā* written by Pāṇini was different from both.

I wrote down this *Shikṣhā*, extending to over 100 shlokas, and said by the Paṇḍit to be complete in that number.

I also employed, about this time, another Paṇḍit, and got him to write down a *Bhāṣhya* (commentary) on this *Shikṣhā*, consisting of extracts of the best portions of eight different commentaries. This *Bhāṣhya* is also complete excepting the last five or six shlokas. All this, of course, was dictated also by Paṇḍit Ḍhanarāja, and all from memory, as he said.

The year 1894 came to an end with this.

I asked Paṇḍit Ḍhanarāja how he came to find the *Nārādīya-Bhāṣhya*.

He said: "Our family are residents of the village of Belhar Kalāñ, in Ṭahsīl Khalilābād of the Bastī District (in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, India). My grandfather was a very learned Paṇḍit. He had a great taste

for studying and teaching ancient works. His collection of MSS. is still with us. He kept up a private Pāthashālā (school). He was very fond of *Sannyāsīs* (wandering ascetics). One day, when I was about twelve or thirteen, there came a *Sannyāsī* who was very much struck with my exceptional memory, for I could get almost 1,000 couplets by heart in a single day. He taught me the *Nāradaīya-Bhāṣhya*. I had an elder cousin, now dead, who had not lost his eyesight, as I did at two and a half years of age from small-pox; and he had even a greater retentiveness. He also committed the *Nāradaīya-Bhāṣhya* to memory."

At the close of 1894, Paṇḍit Dhanarāja went back to his village. He returned again, after an absence of a few weeks, at the end of January, 1895. This time he came with changed ways, always trying to evade dictation and avoid talk on the matters in which I was most interested. However, I got him to dictate some old *śloṭras* (hymns) to me. Then, one day in the course of conversation, he mentioned that in a work called the *Nārṇava*¹, a dialogue between Kṛṣṇa and Uddhava, there was a statement that Rṣhis would continue to dwell on the Himālayas throughout the Kaliyuga and be the custodians

¹ "The ocean of Na, the Negation," for explanation of which Negation, see the text of the *Praṇava-Vāda*.—B. D.

of all knowledge after Kṛṣṇa's departure from this earth.

I forthwith began to reduce the *Nārṇava* into writing, having succeeded in inducing Paṇḍit Dhanarāja to dictate it. We proceeded to about 500 shlokas, the whole being declared by him to be many thousands. I forgot the exact number.

Then, one night I asked him if he had ever studied the small *Bhagavad-Gītā* too, amidst all these huge performances. He said "No." Then I said: "You ought to study it now."

So we began, I this time acting as dictator and he as memoriser. I taught him about eight or ten shlokas, he repeating them faithfully after me, at first in a halting manner, and then over and over again, exactly imitating the process by which a child commits lessons to memory.

By and by it was decided that Dhanarāja and I and another friend should spend some time every day on the *Gītā* and endeavour to discover esoteric meanings therein, out of our own unaided intelligences, and write them down in the vernacular (Hindī). Well, I led off with guesses, based on Theosophical literature, which I had been reading steadily.

Dhanarāja said: "Yes, this is so." I asked: "Why do you speak in this *imprimatur* style?" After many days' haggling he repeated shlokas, from some *Kosha* (Dictionary or Thesaurus)

saying that they proved authoritatively that the *Gītā*-words had that particular meaning. I asked: "Why then bother our heads unnecessarily? If you have got an appropriate *Kosha*, specially fitted for this purpose, you can go along interpreting the *Gītā* far more easily." He said he had been repeating from a *Bhāṣhya* on the *Nirukṭa*, the *Kosha* of the *Veḍa*.

We began anew with this help. After we had struggled on to the seventh or eighth verse of the first chapter of the *Gītā*, Dhanarāja admitted that he knew the book very well and many *Bhāṣhyas* also on it, including one by Gobhila. The pretence of ignorance was only a hoax!

We began the *Gobhiliya-Bhāṣhya* on the *Gītā* and, for a wonder, finished it too! People who will take the necessary trouble to put themselves mentally in my circumstances of age, life-long habits, heavy legal occupations, insufficient knowledge of Samskr̥t, eagerness to know more and inability to spare the necessary time and energy for systematic study from the beginning like a young tyro, and the wonderful nature of the entirely new world of literature opened up, will not wonder that I made so many beginnings and so few endings, and that I was always wandering off into alluring digressions. They will rather wonder that I completed the few MSS. that I did.

My previous familiarity with the subject-

matter of the *Bhagavad-Gītā* and my great respect for the work, the Hindūs' Bible, and the interest of the commentary itself, took me right through the whole of this great work. Not having learnt Samskr̥ṭ or practised Devanāgarī-writing in my earlier years, I have never made myself a good caligraphist of that character. Yet I, with my own hand, laboriously inscribed the bulk of the book. The rest was written by two other writers whom I employed. And the bulk is large; the complete work measures about 24,000 shlokas (of thirty-two syllables each.) This performance occupied us three whole years—1895-6-7.

But while our energies were mainly directed to this work during this period, digressions were not wanting, as was inevitable from my endless queries. A piece of a *Vyārṇava-Samhitā*—a dialogue between Kṛṣṇa and Rukmīṇī (that is Paṇḍit Dhanarāja's spelling, the current one being Rukmīṇī) on all matters in heaven and earth, said to be complete in about 14,000 shlokas—was put on paper.¹ A *Sāmyāyana-Kośa*—an independent lexicon in about 8,000 verses, by Vyāsa, was so fortunate as to get completed. And the 'real original' *Vaidika Nirukṭa* with a *Bhāṣhya* was also begun. Of

¹ About 800 shlokas of this were written down by me, in the course of some holidays during my stay at Bārābaṅkī.—B. D.

course all this was done to the dictation from memory (as he alleged), of the blind Paṇḍit, who is also the sole authority for the descriptions and epithets used, as to whether a work was or was not completed, whether it was genuine, etc., or not.

In 1896 Paṇḍit Dhanarāja attended the Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society, held at Benares; and with his help I contributed some articles on Samskr̥t grammar to *The Theosophist*, during the three years 1895-6-7.

At the end of 1897, Paṇḍit Dhanarāja went away for a long period. But he did not go to his home. He went and stayed with the Rājā of Haḍahā, close to Bārābaikī. He stayed with him almost throughout the whole of 1898, coming to see me now and then for a few days only at a time. I, too, suffered from unhappy family bereavements in that year, and no work could be done with Paṇḍit Dhanarāja. The year 1899 also passed similarly. Paṇḍit Dhanarāja was wandering about elsewhere, coming to see me now and then. In 1900 he stayed with me for almost a month in the summer, when we did some sporadic work on the 'real, original' *Bhāṣhya*¹ on the *Bhagavad-Gīta* by the 'real' original' Shaṅkarāchārya, the current one being

¹ The first hundred shloka-measures or so of this were written down by me on the 31st of July, 1900, when I was visiting Paṇḍit Parmeshrī Dās, for a

decided by him to be spurious. We also did some miscellaneous hymns and *śtoṭras*.

Then Paṇḍit̃ Dhanarāja went on to Benares, and dictated the *Praṇava-Vāḍa* there.¹

He returned to Bārābaṅkī in the summer of 1901; and then dictated to me 700 *ślokas* of what he declared was the second half and continuation of the *Bhagavad-Gītā* now current. The *Vyārṇava-Samhitā* was also continued with the help of a copyist.

We also began a *Bhāṣhya*, by Bārḥaṇa, in 80,000 *ślokas*, on the 'original' *Brahma-Sūtras*, numbering 10,000. By the end of February, 1902, we had progressed to the seventh or eighth *sūtra* of the original and about the 3,000th *śloka* of the commentary. He left again and has not returned to me since. But he has been wandering about amongst other householders in the district of Bārābaṅkī, and I have met him also at one or two places casually.

At the end of these eight years of acquaintance, this extraordinary man still remains a puzzle to me, notwithstanding the fact that he has lived in the same house, almost in the same room, with me, night and day, for months and months together. If all he says about himself; his day at Bārābaṅkī; they seemed to be a sort of abstract of the alleged *Gobhīlīya-Bhāṣhya* of the *Bhagavad-Gītā*.—B. D.

¹ To me, as will be described later on.—B. D.

PREFACE

memory; the hundreds of ancient works of which nobody in the outside world knows anything at all; his memorial knowledge of them all, comprising perhaps two million couplets of thirty-two syllables each (I have and have had taken down some 60,000, and you, Bhagavān Dās, 16,000); amongst them such 'trifles' as fifty-two *Bhāṣhyas* on the *Gīṭā*, four complete *Bhāṣhyas* on the 'complete' *Vedas* (not the patches now extant) from beginning to end, all the eighteen *Purāṇas*, the 'real, original' ones, and the *Mahābhārata*, with Gobhila's *Bhāṣhyas* on them all, full of wonderful 'esoteric' interpretations, the original *Sūtras* of the six systems of philosophy and the six *Veṅḍāṅgas*, all with *Bhāṣhyas*, in fact works on all possible branches of science and philosophy; and all that he says about the secret handing-down of all such wondrous learning in old families of Paṇḍits, in the Nepāl Terāi and adjoining country—if all this, or a tenth or a hundredth of it, be true at all, then it is very, very wonderful.

Can we believe him or can we not? In all these eight years, he has never repeated a second time, despite incessant requests and offers of all kinds of inducements, honorary, pecuniary, etc., a single shloka that he has dictated once. He has evaded and avoided, equivocated and prevaricated; but never actually given this absolutely

simple and conclusive test of memory. He has failed most woefully in promises to show or secure MSS. of the works he dictated, which again would have settled all our doubts most satisfactorily. The majority of my friends, interested in these matters, who have come into contact with him, hold the strongest and most unfavourable opinion as to his straightforwardness in this respect. Indeed they do not hesitate to call him a charlatan; and it is difficult to prove them wrong.

I myself have been often driven to such irritation by his want of straightforwardness, that I have driven him out of my house—but always only to call him back again when the irritation subsided. And yet the fact of what he has dictated remains and stands invincibly. Has it or has it not any merits?

After eight years of work on it I am satisfied that a fair portion of it is new and valuable to modern thought. I have made many efforts to trace the MSS. of the works mentioned by Dhanaarāja, with the help of occasional descriptions given by him as to the Paṇḍit families with which, as he says, he stayed and studied the books he says he knows by heart. But I have always failed to lay my hand on any such substantial thing, partly, at least, I think, because of my very restricted opportunities for search. Yet I believe that the MSS. exist, for

I cannot believe, after what I have seen of Ḍhanarāja for eight years, that he has the power to invent all that he has dictated to me or my copyists. For the present, then, the people who take any serious interest in valuable philosophical thought must content themselves with judging these dictated works, and pieces of work, on their inherent merits. The future will show whether actual old MSS. justify this most wonderful man's statements.

PAṆḌIT DHANARĀJA'S BIOGRAPHY.

To the above I wished very much to add a full account of his life from the lips of Paṇḍit Dhanarāja himself. But for reasons which will be partially understood from the latter portion of the narrative of Paṇḍit Parmeshrī Dās, I have not succeeded in getting from Dhanarāja any such systematic account. If I do in future I will certainly publish it. In the meanwhile I am compelled to content myself with putting together such notes, either on paper or in memory, as I retain, of occasional talks about himself that Dhanarāja has indulged in in my hearing. Of course, the reliability of these talks is no greater, nor less, than that of his sayings and doings in general; and it is so defective, that I should ordinarily have refrained from publishing any of these matters. But the many years' experience of the man that Paṇḍit Parmeshrī Dās and I have had, and his failure and mine (of which more will be said later) to trace or secure original MSS., and the utter uncertainty of my having better opportunities in the future, and the very great inherent merits, in our eyes, of the material dictated by the man, and finally the hope that others with better opportunities will take the work up,

and possibly bring to light this whole new world of very valuable literature for the use of humanity—all these considerations have combined to induce me not to delay publication of these matters any longer.

What I have gathered from Paṇḍit Dhanarāja Mishra about his life is as follows :

He was born about 1873 A. D. in the village of Belhār Kalān, Post Office Menhḍāwal, Tahsīl Khalīlābād, District Bastī, United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, India. His father was Nepāl Mishra, uncle Paṭirāja Mishra, and grandfather Haragovinda Mishra. He had an elder brother, Chandrikā, who died at the age of sixteen or seventeen. (In Paṇḍit Parmeshrī Dās' narrative this brother is mentioned as cousin.) Dhanarāja lost his eyesight from small-pox when he was two and a half or three years of age.

He had a phenomenal memory from his earliest childhood. When he was seven or eight years old, he could commit to memory many hundreds of shlokas in a single day. His brother Chandrikā was even better endowed. The family of Dhanarāja were grammarians. His grandfather kept a kind of private school (or day-pāthashālā), and taught deserving v i d y ā r ṭ h ī s ('seekers of learning,' students). Dhanarāja early exhausted his family stores of modern Sanskr̥t grammar, and grew more and more dissatisfied and inquisitive.

Many Sannyāsīs (wandering ascetics) used to visit his grandfather. One of them was specially attracted by Dhanarāja's wonderful memory and inquisitiveness, and told him that he should study the *Maheshvarīya-Vyākaraṇa*, with the *Nāradīya-Bhāṣhya* on it, if he wanted his grammatical difficulties solved and his curiosity satisfied. Dhanarāja was eager to learn, and the Sannyāsī put him on the track. He told him the names of the Paṇḍits and the places from whom and where he would get what he wanted.

Dhanarāja ran off from his home, accompanied and helped by a companion. (In Paṇḍit Parmeshri Dās' narrative Dhanarāja says he was taught the big work on grammar by the Sannyāsī himself.) His phenomenal memory, precocious intelligence, and developed inquisitiveness, were ready certificates of desert, and served as passports to the confidence of the Paṇḍits mentioned by the Sannyāsī, and he began his astonishing career of memorising.

He went from one Paṇḍit to another, from village to village, and district to district, obtaining clues to each successive house of learning from the previously visited one, all being occupied by members of the same ancient fraternity. (Some brief mention of them has been already made in the extracts reprinted from the *Prashnoṭṭara*.)

In this way he committed to memory some

hundreds of thousands, almost millions, of shloka-measures of literature (one shloka-measure being equal to thirty-two syllables). He wandered about thus for eight or ten years, and then felt surfeited. In the course of his wanderings he seems to have heard from some Paṇḍiṭs, who had been tried and found wanting, about Paṇḍiṭ Parmeshrī Dās' unanswerable questions. Here was a congenial spirit. In the spirit of the old *Upaṇiṣhaṭ* stories he went to Paṇḍiṭ Parmeshrī Dās to answer his questions. What followed has already been described above.

From August 30th, 1900, to January 19th, 1901, he stayed with me at "Durgākund," Benares. In this period the *Praṇāva Vāḍa* was written down to his dictation, by me and Paṇḍiṭ Gaṅgānāṭh Jhā, M.A., D. Litt., (now Professor of Samskr̥ṭ, Muir Central College, Allahabād); the last portion, about an eighth of the whole, being written by Paṇḍiṭ Ambā Dās of Benares (sometime head Paṇḍiṭ in a Jaina Samskr̥ṭ Pāthashālā in Benares and now Professor of *Veḍānta* in the Raṇavīra Samskr̥ṭ Pāthashālā Department of the Central Hindū College, Benares). I have not seen him again since. I myself have not had the desired opportunity of going to his place and visiting the neighbouring tracts, and he has not been able to comply with my invitation to come and stay with me again. But I have had some correspondence,

very occasional and rare, with him since. I wrote to him repeatedly to send me an account of his life, written down to his dictation by some pupil of his ; but he has not done so. He gave me some hopes of coming to me on a visit, in answer to repeated invitations, but these hopes have also remained unfulfilled so far. I might have got from him orally what he had not thought fit to send in writing.

I understand he has been married twice, the first wife having died.

I have made a list of the ' ancient ' works of which he has spoken to my brother or myself from time to time during the months the *Pranava Vāda* was being written, together with the names of the Paṇḍits or others, and the places, with whom and where, according to him, manuscripts of them exist. Very much to my regret I have not had an opportunity, so far, of going out to search for them myself, personally, though I retain hopes of being able to do so some day, later on. But I have had search made for them, through friends residing in or near the localities concerned. All without success, so far. Either the villages do not exist, or at least cannot be traced and recognised ; or, if the villages are found, then the Paṇḍits named are not to be found there ; or if both are found, then the Paṇḍits swear that the MSS. named are not with them, and that they never even

heard of them ; and so on. Perhaps others may take up the search and succeed better. The list is printed below for permanent record as a clue at least.

LIST OF INEXTANT SAMSKR̥T WORKS MENTIONED

BY

PAṆḌIT̥ DHANARĀJA

*With names and addresses of the persons with
whom he said he found them.*

Name and address of possessor of Mss.	Name of work—with its extent in shloka-measures of thirty-two syllables each.
(a) Paṇḍit̥ Gaurī-Shaṅkara. (Village Tārāpur, District Chhaprā).	<p>(1) <i>Māheshvara Sūtra</i> (on Samskr̥t Grammar)—24,000.</p> <p>(2) <i>Nārādīya-Bhāṣhya</i> on above—62,000.</p> <p>(3) <i>Vaiśeṣhika-Sūtra</i> in six chapters.</p> <p>(4) <i>Bhāṣhya</i> on above by Lātyāyana.</p> <p>(5) Do. by Prashastapāḍa (not the one current under the name which is not a commentary on the aphorisms at all, but an independent digest).</p> <p>(6) <i>Vṛtti</i>, on <i>Vaiśeṣhika-Sūtra</i>, by Bhāradvāja.</p>

- (7) *Vyākaraṇa* by Shiva.
- (8) *Shikṣhā* by Do.
- (9) *Chhandah* by Gaṇeśha.
- (10) *Jyauṭīṣha* by Sūrya.
- (11) *Kalpa* by Shakṭi.
- (12) *Nirukṭa* by Sheṣha.
- (13) *Graṇtha-Chandrodaya* by Gobhila (or Gobhili; a sort of History of Literature).
- (14) *Yogopadeśha* (or *Yogoḍaya*) by Bhārgava.

(b) Pt. Hariḍaṭṭa
Shāstrī. (But-
wal B a z ā r,
K a c h a n ā p u r,
Nepāl Terāi).

- (15) Works on *Nyāya*.
-

(c) Pt. Baladeva
Prasād, son of
Pt. Girijā Datta
(Village Bar-
auli, T a h s i l
Mahārājganj,
District Go-
rakhpur).

- (16) The *Eighteen Purāṇas*, interpreted as so many rays of Mahāviṣṇu.
- (17) The *Mahābhārata*, as the *siḍḍhānta*, or final essence and conclusion of all the *Eighteen Purāṇas*, its *Eighteen parvas* or sections also each corresponding to a ray of Mahāviṣṇu, the *Eighteenth* being the quintessence.

(18) *Tīkā* or commentary on the Eighteen Purāṇas, by Gobhili and Gārgyāyaṇa.

(19) Do. by Gobhili on the *Mahābhārata*.

(d) Pt. Manohar Datta Shukla. (Village Kanakpura, District Bastī.)

(20) Works on *Kāvya* (Poetry).

(21) *Sāṅkhya-Sūtra* by Kapila—7,000.

(22) *Ratṇanuḍeshinī*, a commentary on the *Rāmāyaṇa*, by Vishvāmitṭra.

(e) Pt. Chandī Datta. (Village Siswā, Tahsil and District Bastī.)

(23) *Mahābhūṣhya* by Patañjalī (Complete—the current one omits many sūtras.)

(24) *Nīṭyārṇava*—10,000.

(25) *Kriyānuvāda*, in 4 parts, by Gālava—24,000.

(f) Pt. Yamunā Prasād (Town Bānsi, District Bastī).

(26) *Ākara-Bhūṣhya* on the *Bhagavad-Gītā*.

(27) *Bhūṣhya* on *Bhagavad-Gītā*, by Buddha.

(28) Do., by Gobhili—30,000 (Dictated to Pt. Parmeshri Dās).

(29) *Sanḡīta-prabhā*—27,000.

- (g) Pt. Gayā Daṭṭa, son of Pt. Kalādhara Prasāḍ. (Mahallā Alinagar, Town Gorakhpur).
- (30) *Vṛtṭi on Nyāya-sūtra* by Bhāradvāja.
- (31) *Mahābhāṣhya* (*vide* No. 23 above).
- (h) Pt. Chandra-
Shekhara.
(Village Doharia, District Gorakhpur.)
- (32) The *Veḍas*. (33) *Aindrīya Bhāṣhya* on the *Veḍas*.
- (34) *Brāhmīya-khāṣhya* on Do.
- (35) Bārhāyaṇa's *Bhāṣhya* on Do.
- (36) *Sāṅkhya-Pravachana-Kārikā*—200,000.
- (i) Pt. Ishvara Daṭṭa (Do).
- (37) Do. (See No. 36 above)
- (j) The Rājā of Basti.
- (38) Portions of Do. (No. 36 above.)
- (39) Portions of *Bauḍhāyana-Vṛtṭi* on *Brahma-Sūtra*. (The current *Shrī-bhāṣhya* of Rāmānuja on the *Brahma-Sūtra* refers to a *Vṛtṭi* by *Bauḍhāyana*.)
- (k) Pt. Ganrī Shauṅkara, (Village Rāmnaḡrā, District Chaprā).
- (40) *Bauḍhāyana-Vṛtṭi*. (See 39 above).
- (41) Bārhāyaṇa's *Bhāṣhya* on *Brāhma-Sūtra*—80,000
- (42) *Gītā-Chandrikā*, by Vāsuḍeva—3,000.
- (43) *Bāṇa-praḍīpa* by Droṇāchārya—25,000.

- (44) *Siddhānta-Chandrodaya*, a commentary on the *Mahābhārata*, by Vāsudeva—4,000,000 (Four millions.)

(l) Pt. Jagaḍīsha Sharāṇa. (Village Nautānvā Bazār, in Nepal, or District Gorakhpur, twelve or fifteen miles from the boundary of Tahsil Bānsi, District Bastī).

- (45) Works on *Shilpa*.

- (46) *Praṇava-Vāda*, by Gargyāyana—16,000 (dictated to Bhagavān Dās).

- (47) *Yoga-Vāsiṣṭha*—66,000, (the current version has only 32,000 shlokas).

(m) Pt. Rāmā-Pratāpa, (Village Sonaurā, P.O. Mendhāwal, Tahsil Khalilābād, District Bastī):

- (48) *Yoga-darpaṇa*, by Gārgyāyana,—4,000.

- (49) *Yoga-raṭnākara*, by Pulastya—8,000.

- (50) *Shāstrānubhava*, by Gobhili—6,000.

- (51) *Itihāsa-yaugika*, by Shaunaka—8,000.

- (52) *Itihāsa-samuchchaya*, by Vishvāmīṭra—14,000. (A work of this name is quoted by Shrīdhara in his—published—commentary on the *Viṣṇu-Bhāgavata*).

- (53) *Vidhi-raṭṇākara*, by Shiva—
20,000. (Gives reasons for
various kinds of works.)
- (54) *Iṭihāsodaya*, by Kaṛḍama—
16,000.
- (55) *Prakṛṭi-khaṇḍa*, by Shri Kṛṣṇa—
12,000. (Hymns.)
- (56) *Dharma-raṭṇākara*—a Dia-
logue between Kṛṣṇa and
Nārada, about Avatāras.—
7,000.

(u) Pt. Manohar
Daṭṭa. (Vil-
lage Shyāmpur
Patnā, Tānsen-
ganj, Nepāl.)

Some works.

(o) Lāl Ratna
Sena Simha,
Rāja of Bānsī,
(District Bastī.)

- (57) *Varṇa-vāḍa* by Chandramatī—
9,000 (Dictated to the Rājā
by Pt. Dhanarāja).
- (58) *Maheshvara-Bhāṣya* on
Maheshvara-Vyākaraṇa—
300,000.

Some other works.

(p) Pt. Shiva Maṇ-
gala. (Village
Rudrapur,
Tahsil Bānsī,
District Bastī.)

Some works on *Mīmāṃsā*.

- (q) Pt. Chaṇḍi Daṭṭa, (Town, Gorakhpur.) (59) *Pranavārṇava*—200,000.
- (r) Pt. Manṇu Deva, son of Pt. Parameshvara Daṭṭa, (Village Harḍoi, Nepal, on the boundary between Nepal and Tahsil Mahārājganj of District Gorakhpur.) (60) *Pranava-Vāḍa* (See no. 46 above).
- (s) Pt. Manojña Daṭṭa Shākaḍvīpī. (Village Jīvā, P. O. and Tahsil Mahārājganj, District Gorakhpur.) (61) *Kāvyaṁṛta*, by Jamaḍagni—10,000. (on Rhetoric).
 (62) *Kāvya Sindhu*, by Vāsudeva—75,000. (on Rhetoric).
 (63) *Kāvya-Darpaṇa*, by Vāsudeva—30,000. (a story).
 (64) *Kāvya-Darpaṇa*, by Vasudeva—5,000 (a story of a Brāhmaṇa).
- (t) Pt. Ramānāth. (Village Dōspur, Tahsil Qāḍipur, Dt. Sultānpur.) (65) *Bhūva-Siddhaṇṭa*, by Garga—32,000. (Astronomy).
 (66) *Artha-Pradeśa*, by Kashyapa. (Dharma-shāstra).

- (u) Pt. Shri Harsha. (Village Rakhnākhori. Tahsil and District Gorakhpur). (67) *Yōga-Vāsishtha*, (See No. 47.)
- (v) Pt. Girijā Daṭṭa. (Village Barauli, Tahsil Barhal, District Gorakhpur.) (68) *Pranava-Vaḍā*, (See Nos. 46 and 60).
(—but see (c) above ?)
- (w) Pt. Vaikuntha Nāth, son of Pt. Kālī Charan. (Village Kaleshvara, P. O. Sabjanā, Dt. Gorakhpur) (69) *Pāṭala-Vijaya-Kārya*, by Pāṇini. (This is quoted in *Subhāshiṭāvalī*, published in the *Bombay Sanskrit Series*).
- (x) Pt. Kunja Behāri, (Village Belhar Kalān, P. O., Menhdāwal, Tahsil Khalilābād, District Bastī). (70) *Darshanodāya* by Gobhili —10,000.
(71) *Brahma-Sūtra*, 10,000 aphorisms, with *Bārhuṃyana-Bhāṣhya*—80,000.
(72) *Nyāya-Sūtra* in six chapters. (Dictated by Pt. Dhana-rāja to *Bhagavān Dās*).

PERSONAL NARRATIVE IN CONNECTION WITH THE
Pranava-Vāda.

I turn now to the story of the particular work, the *Pranava-Vāda*, of which these volumes purport to be a summary. Into this I will take the liberty of introducing a good deal of personal

matter, for which I crave the indulgence of my readers, my excuse for the procedure being that the personal matter is likely to be of use in appraising the value of the work.

Having been more or less earnestly interested in questions of metaphysic from the year 1881, when I was in my thirteenth year, I had formed for myself, in 1887, while studying for university degrees, a set of philosophical aphorisms in Samskr̥t, with an English translation. These embodied answers, to my own satisfaction, to all or most of the final questions of metaphysic, in the shape of definitions of the Ultimates of the World-process. I had them printed for private circulation among friends some time between 1887 and 1890; I am not sure of the exact year now. I reproduce these aphorisms below; and for detailed exposition of the ideas contained in them, and of some slight changes and improvements and corrections introduced into the scheme, I may be permitted to refer to a book, called *The Science of Peace*, written by me, and published by the Theosophical Publishing Society in 1904.

अथ

वेदान्तहृदयसूत्रम् ।

१. “अहमेतन्नास्मि” इति निष्क्रियमकालमदेशं पूर्णं शाश्वतं परं “ब्रह्म,” “परमात्मा” वा ।

२. “एतत्” समष्ट्युपाध्युपहितः “एतन्नास्मि” इति-
“ज्ञान” वान् “अहम्” एव पुरुषः, सूत्रात्मा,
“ईश्वरः” ।
३. “अहमै” क्यविरोधा “देत” “ज्ञाना” “अणु”
रूपमिति ।
“एतदे” व “अहमेतदि” ति निर्वचनात् सद्भाव-
वती “एतन्नास्मी” ति निषेधादसद्भाववत्ताम्बिनी
सदसती प्रधानाव्यक्तेत्याद्यपरनास्ती अनन्ताणुरूपा
“मूलप्रकृतिः” ।
४. अणुरूपै “तद्” व्यष्ट्युपाध्युपहितः “अहमेतद्”
इति ज्ञानवान् अहम् “जीवः,” “जीवात्मा” वा ।
५. अहमा एतदः प्रत्यक्षीकरणमेव “ज्ञानम्” ।
- ६ & ७. तत एव “ज्ञाता” “ज्ञेयं” च ।
८. “अहमेतन्नास्मी” ति पूर्णज्ञानम् महत्, बुद्धिः,
ब्रह्मा, “विद्या” वा ।
९. “अहमेतद्” इत्यंशज्ञान “मविद्या” ।
१०. “एतन्नास्मी” ति नितान्ताविरोधेऽपि “अहमेतद्भि”
त्यत्यन्तसंरोधात् अहमेतदोः “अन्योऽन्याध्यासः” ।
११. “एतदः” अहमपरिमितत्वविरोधेन परिमितत्वम् ।
परिमिते च “एतदि” “अहमेतदि” ति संयोगस्य
“नास्मी” ति च वियोगस्य यौगपद्यासंभवात्
“प्रवृत्ति-निवृत्ति,” सृष्टिसंहारा, ध्यारोपापवाद, रूप
“क्रम” जन्म ।

१२. क्रम एव “कालः” ।

१३. एकस्मिन् काले नानानाम् संभव एव “देशः,” खम्,
आकाशः ।

१४. “अहमेतन्नास्मी” तिवाक्यान्तर्गतं क्रम “स्यावश्य-
कत्वं” मेव “माया” शक्तिर्देवीप्रकृतिरित्यादि बहु-
नामिका भगवती स्तुतिशतसहस्राधिष्ठातृदेवता ॥

The Heart of the Vedānta

1. (A ham-eṭat-na) “I-this-not-am” is the Motionless, Timeless, Spaceless, Perfect, Eternal, Supreme Brahman, known otherwise as Paramātmā.

2. The “I” sheathed in the totality of the “This” and possessing the knowledge “I am not this” is Puruṣha, Sūtrātmā, Īshvara.¹

3. By opposition to the unity of the “I,” the “This” is “many,” hence atomic. This same “This,” endowed with being by the affirmation “I (am) This,” and deprived of existence by the denial “(I am) This not,” hence existent as well as non-existent, is the (ever becoming, ever changing) endlessly atomic Mūlaprakṛti—also named Pradhāna, Avyakṛta, etc.

4. The “I” clothed in the sheath of an

¹ This idea has been somewhat modified and developed in *The Science of Peace* where the word used is Pratyag-ātmā, a distinction being made between it and Sūtrātmā, for technical purposes. So, more or less slight modifications would have to be made in the wording of the other aphorisms also if they were being written out anew, in the light of the *Praṇava-Vāda*.

“atom” (*i.e.*, a part of the “This,” as distinguished from the totality thereof) and possessing the consciousness, “I (am) this” is the *jīva*, called otherwise the *jīvātma*.

5. The placing before itself of the “This” by the “I” is *Knowledge*.

6 & 7. Whence the *Knower* and the *Known*.

8. The full-knowledge “I-this-not-am” is *Mahat*, *Buddhi*, *Brahmā*, *Vidyā*.

9. The part-knowledge “I (am) this” is *A-vidyā*.

10. The complete identification implied in the “I (am) This,” despite the utter opposition conveyed in “(I am) This not,” results in (the) *Mutual Assimilation* (of the qualities, so to say, of the “I” and the “This”).

11. The “This” by opposition to the unlimitedness of the “I” is “limited”. Owing to the impossibility, in the limited This, of a contemporicity of the union (of the I and the This) contained in the “I (am) This” and of the separation involved in the “(I am) This not,” results the (succession of the) movement (motion, or cyclic moving) of *Assumption* and *Renunciation*, Creation and Destruction, Hypothesis and Refutation (Manifestation and Absorption, Evolution and Involution, Life and Death, etc., etc.).

12. This succession (of the movement) itself is *Time*.

13. The possibility of the Existence of the "Many" in (and at) one Time is *Space*.

14. The *Necessity* of the movement involved in the sentence "I-this-not-am" is *Māyā*, *Shakti*, *Daivī-Prakṛti*, the Goddess of a hundred names and a thousand hymns.

When I met Paṇḍit Dhanarāja, at Bārābankī, in 1897, as said before, and, day after day, heard his astonishing accounts of extant ancient works, I one day asked him whether in any of these he had met with any definition of Brahman, the Absolute, or *Paramātmā*, the Supreme Self, in the words of the first aphorism printed above. He was silent for sometime and then said "Yes". At my further request, he repeated a paragraph in the middle of which occurred, like an islet in a stream, the four words recognisable to me, while on both sides thereof were masses of what was to me then entirely unintelligible language. I asked him whence he had made the quotation. He mentioned the name of *Praṇava-Bhāṣhya* in reply, to the best of my recollection. (When, long after, I referred the point to him, he said my memory was at fault, and that he had mentioned the right name, *Praṇava-Vāda*, from the very beginning.)

My opportunities, at the time, of seeing and conversing with him, were not many or long, because of the exigencies of the service I was in.

I was, moreover, shortly transferred by the Government to another district, and so lost sight of him for the time being. I resigned the service in March, 1899, partly to find more time for such studies as I was interested in, and partly to look after the secretarial work of the Central Hindū College, Benares, founded a few months previously by Mrs. Annie Besant, in the best and highest interests of Hindū youth and Hindū religion. In the winter of 1899-1900 I wrote out *The Science of the Emotions*, the main ideas of which I had put forward many years previously in a very roughly sketched article, entitled "Findings," in *The Theosophist*, in 1894; and the work was published in London, by the Theosophical Publishing Society, in the summer of 1900.

About the end of July in this latter year I went to Bārābankī for a couple of days to pay a visit to my old friend Paṇḍit Parmeshrī Dās. At the latter's house I saw Paṇḍit Dhanarāja again. The broken conversations of 1897 were resumed. I made further enquiries about the commentary on the *Praṇava* the *Praṇava-Vāda* as he called it now. He repeated passages from it; also from what he declared was an ancient commentary by Bārḥāyaṇa on the original *Brahma-Sūtras*. My interest was aroused strongly. Between this interest on the one hand, and the doubts and suspicions hanging around the

man on the other, it appeared to me that a serious experiment should be made, and a full and fair opportunity given to the Paṇḍit to help the public, if he really could, with an ancient work which, from the promise of the oral extracts, would be of immense value.

I invited Paṇḍit Dhanarāja to come and stay with me at Benares, where the home of my family is. He agreed. I returned to Benares, made necessary arrangements, and sent men to fetch him from Bārābañkī. He arrived in Benares on the morning of the 30th August, 1900. On the next day I began writing down the *Praṇava-Vāda* to his dictation. We worked for about four hours each morning. I took down about 125 shloka-measures (equal to 4,000 Samskr̥ṭ letters or syllables) in about two hours, carefully re-read to him the previous day's writing, and made the necessary corrections that he pointed out in another hour, and spent the fourth hour in little breaks for rest, and in general talk and discussion of any words or sentences in the work that offered any difficulty to me. In this way I finished about 4,000 shloka-measures in the month of September.

As the writing proceeded my understanding of the archaic Samskr̥ṭ improved, and my interest in the work, and wonderment at the coincidences of its thought with the views I had arrived at independently before, grew apace.

But at the end of September, 1900, other urgent business, mainly connected with the Central Hindū College, and partly with the Theosophical Society, the Indian Section of which has its headquarters at Benares, unavoidably took up all my time and attention. I began to feel very anxious as to how a break could be avoided in the work of writing down the *Praṇava-Vāda*. Just then, most fortunately and providentially, my old friend and junior at College, Gaṅgānāth Jhā, M.A. (author of many valuable translations of Samskr̥t works, then Librarian to the Mahārāja of Darbhāṅgā), turned up on a six weeks' leave to stay with us in Benares, amidst old associations. I seized the opportunity, worked up his interest in the matter without any difficulty, and induced him to take my seat at the writing-table.

I used to pique myself on my power of writing the Samskr̥t, *i.e.*, the Devanāgarī character, fast. I used to write, on an average, one shloka-measure or thirty-two syllables per minute to Paṇḍit Dhanarāja's dictation, the arrangement between him and me being that he should speak out half that measure once, and wait for an audible sign from me to proceed with another half shloka-measure, without repeating any words except when I happened to become doubtful and made a special request for a repetition. But Gaṅgānāth Jhā fairly surpassed me, and in

the six weeks he stayed with us, he took down to the dictation of the blind man nearly 8,000 shloka-measures. Then he had to go back and rejoin his post.

I began again about the middle of November, 1900, and, by the end of the month, reduced to writing another 2,000 shlokas. In the beginning of December, 1900, I had to go out with Mrs. Besant on a tour in the North of India, in connexion with the College and the Theosophical Society. I, therefore, engaged Paṇḍit Ambā Dās Shāstrī, a Paṇḍit of Benares, educated in Samskr̥t in the indigenous way, with a special training in the *Nyāya* Philosophy, to complete the work for me. I may note here that Paṇḍit Ambā Dās does not know English. He completed the last 2,000 shlokas of the *Praṇava-Vāḍa* on the 9th January, 1901.

Throughout the months of October, November and December, 1900, and up to the 13th of January, 1901, I used to avail myself of the spare hours that I could secure during the days I was in Benares, generally between the hours of 9 and 11 in the night, to read out to the blind Paṇḍit what had been written by Gangānāth Jhā or Ambā Dās Shāstrī, and correct any mistakes that had crept in, as pointed out by him. This work of revision was also completed on the 13th January, 1901.

Between the 13th and the 19th January, 1901,

I took down to the Paṇḍit's dictation the original "Preface" to the book, which for some reason of his own, never explained to me, he had reserved to the last. On the 19th January, 1901, Paṇḍit Dhanarāja left for his home in Belhar Kalān.

Although, on repeated reading, the language of the work becomes, generally speaking, intelligible, yet the precise sense remains often obscure and indefinable. It will remain obscure throughout to minds not specially trained and prepared by previous metaphysical study to grasp and utilise slight clues to subtle ideas. There are other drawbacks to a study of the work: too much repetition of the same ideas in only slightly different forms or aspects and only slightly different language; too much condensation in one place, and over-prolixity in another; and so on. Yet, despite these drawbacks, as they are from a modern point of view, the work is unique. It is different entirely from anything on the subject of Philosophy now current in Samskr̥t, or any other language, so far as I am aware. It has had a special charm and attraction for me, and has aroused an almost superstitious enthusiasm in me, because of the entire agreement of its line of thought with that which I evoked for myself independently many years before I knew anything about Paṇḍit Dhanarāja, or about this

work, and an aphoristic outline of which I had circulated privately in print amongst a few friends, and then sketched out roughly in a few articles under the titles of "To Him That Seeks," "Findings," and "Further Findings," in *The Theosophist* for March, May and October, 1894, and later on published in fuller detail in *The Science of the Emotions* and *The Science of Peace*, in 1900 and 1904 respectively.

I have already stated how *The Science of the Emotions* was written out in the winter of 1899-1900, when I possessed only an acquaintance with Paṇḍit Dhanarāja, and had not yet heard anything from him about the *Praṇava-Vāda* beyond the mere name. I found, later on, the main ideas of that book expounded in the *Praṇava-Vāda* in a few pages of the third and largest section, on *Kriyā*, entitled the *Kriyā-Prakaraṇa*.

I may be permitted to add here, with respect to *The Science of Peace*, that it is practically a detailed commentary on the set of aphorisms reproduced above, made by me for my own use in 1887, as said before; and deals with most of the many questions incidentally raised in *The Science of the Emotions*, and left there to be answered elsewhere, as belonging to metaphysic. The drafting of this work, *The Science of Peace*, was begun in June 1900, when I was away, for a change of air, at the

hill town of Waltair, also called Vizagapatam, on the sea-shore, midway between Calcutta and Madras on the eastern coast of India. The whole of it, and the bulk of a continuation of it, dealing especially with metaphysical psychology of cognition, desire and action (not yet published) was drafted out in June, and on my return to Benares, in July 1900, just before the beginning of the reduction into writing of the *Pranava-Vāda*. More of the continuation was drafted, in a sporadic manner, during the time the other was being taken down. (This is yet in hand and may be revised and published later.)

The correspondences, nay, frequently, identities of thought between my draft and the *Pranava-Vāda* were very startling to me; and have been the main cause for my, so to say, superstitious faith in the latter work. It came upon me more and more strongly, as I proceeded with the work, that on the one hand I was taking down, in one form and language, to dictation from the rote-memory of another, what I had been reproducing on the other hand, in another form and language, and much more imperfectly, from my own reason-memory of the *samskāra*, the impress, of past births; and that both forms were derived, not only from the Common Store of All-knowledge, All-consciousness, which is in and which is the World-process at large, and

whence and wherein is all knowledge whatsoever, but also, more particularly, from a special literature which existed and was extant and matter of public knowledge and study in India, some thousands of years ago, and which still exists, but now inextant and hidden, and to be rediscovered by single-minded and laborious search only.

After having taken down to dictation the *Pranava-Vāda*, I felt for some time that it was perhaps not necessary for me to continue work on *The Science of Peace*. But on looking at the two again, I saw that while the root-principles, the main ideas, were the same, there was much difference in the method of treatment and the details. My draft, I saw, taking its stand on the one, single, indispensable, and indefeasible fact of consciousness, endeavoured to lead thought up from current answers to the ultimate problem of metaphysic, regarding them as insufficient, to a higher and (as it appeared to me) more perfect synthesis and complete explanation, and then to deduce all other root-ideas and principles therefrom; and so dealt almost entirely with the *why* of things. The older work, on the other hand, practically started where my draft ended, assumed the root-ideas as proved, as, in fact, matter of common knowledge, and at once entered upon numerous applications of those root-ideas to the facts around us, to the details

of the World-process, of human life and evolution, and to the technicalities of Samskr̥t literature in particular, which had never entered into my mind. In other words, the difference between the two works was the difference between abstract and concrete, laws and cases, rules and facts. Moreover, the older work was full of obscurities, and full of technical ways of thought and expression, unfamiliar to readers of English and thinkers employing the modern counters of thought; while the newer work was written more, though not by any means entirely, from the standpoint and in the language of modern philosophical thought. It seemed to me, indeed, that the newer work would serve efficiently as an introduction and help to the study of the *Pranava-Vāda*, showing, as it did, the steps by which the principles and conclusions taught in an ancient and now hidden literature had been worked up to anew by an individual consciousness, in modern days, and without any help from that previous literature. I therefore decided to put *The Science of Peace*, before the public. I shall endeavour and hope I may be able to place the continuation of the work before them also, later on, for similar reasons.

In concluding this note I would record my deep gratitude to Mrs. Annie Besant, who was the first to appreciate *The Science of the*

Emotions and *The Science of Peace*, and who read them in manuscript, suggested many improvements, encouraged me to publish the works, and finally had them published by the Theosophical Publishing Society, giving a series of lectures on each book, while it was in the Press, and thereby introducing the main ideas to a much larger public than they would have reached otherwise, and in a far more lucid and interesting manner than the written treatises have achieved; and who, again, has encouraged and enabled me to publish the present work, and not only done so but has embellished it with valuable footnotes from her own pen.

I have written down the above personal history in the hope that I may thereby inspire a special interest in the work, by pointing out such an extraordinary coincidence connected therewith, as is, even by itself, and apart from the inherent merits of the work, no mean test of truth. Unless there is an agreement of basic fact, such coincidences do not occur. When they do occur they constitute at least sufficient reason for careful enquiry. I myself earnestly believe that there is a providential purpose in this coincidence, and that the time has come when the general modern public, prepared by the ideas of the great German philosophers, by the worldwide revival of interest in Samskr̥t learning and philosophy, especially *Vedānta*, and finally by

the Theosophical movement and literature—than which there is no more promising seed, at the present day, of all-embracing tolerance and sympathy and brotherhood—is ready for a larger metaphysic, a deeper psychology, a more reason-supported ethic than it has been content with so long, a metaphysic and a science of Yoga that will form the completing keystone of the great dome of knowledge, wherein the different sciences serve as the building stones, bound together by the mortar of psychology and physiology.

With this foreword, I would leave the reader to judge whether the work satisfies or does not satisfy lastingly any deep-seated need of his. But before proceeding to the actual summary of the work I should say, in two more preliminary notes, something about the genuineness of the work, and about the nature of this summary.

III.

THE GENUINENESS OF THE WORK.

A question that would naturally strike anyone, not wholly one-pointed towards the inherent merits or demerits of the book, but also interested in side-questions as to its authorship, with regard to a work purporting to have been taken down to dictation from alleged memory under such extraordinary conditions as those described above, would be : “ Is the work genuine ? Is the man telling the truth when he says he learnt it off by rote in such and such circumstances ? Or is it only another of those forgeries with which the history of literature is studded ? ”

The easiest and most satisfactory proof of its genuineness would, clearly, have been an old and independent manuscript. Such a manuscript Paṇḍit̃ Dhanarāja has not been able to supply ; and for this inability he advances reasons which, from his standpoint, and in view of the conditions under which he obtained access to the work, are not wholly unintelligible or invalid. He, a blind man, could never himself make use of a manuscript and never tried to acquire one, and the Paṇḍit̃ or Paṇḍit̃s who had copies would not part with them.

The independent search, made by some of my friends, as mentioned before, in the places

mentioned by Paṇḍit Dhanarāja, has so far proved unsuccessful.

All this, however, is quite in keeping with the habit, well known to be strongly prevalent in India, of concealing old and rare manuscripts ; and the absence of this first and highest degree of proof does not therefore necessarily stamp the dictated *Pranava-Vāḍa* as a forgery.

The proof that would have been satisfactory in the next degree could have been supplied by a good test of memory. If I know a thing by heart I can repeat it not once only but a hundred times. If, then, Paṇḍit Dhanarāja could repeat a second time what he had dictated once, it would at least be clear that the matter was mnemonic. For the instance is not easily found of a man talented enough to dictate four to six thousand syllables of his own extempore composition, at a single sitting, without a single break, and as fast as a fast writer could take them down, and also to go on impressing those syllables so fully on his memory as to be able to reproduce them exactly at will later on. If Paṇḍit Dhanarāja *were* such an exception, then also he would be a prodigy, a genius, the like of whom the world has not often seen before ; perhaps though even otherwise, on any other theory whatever, his performances are wonderful enough !

But Paṇḍit Dhanarāja during all the years

that he was known to Paṇḍiṭ Parmeshrī Dās, and has been known to me, has never repeated a second time what he dictated and got reduced to writing once. He has never flatly declined to do so either; but he has always evaded any request of this kind. "I am not feeling well enough, just now. I am tired. I shall do so some other time, when I am better," etc. When requested to declare definitely and frankly whether he never would, or whether he had taken any vow not to so repeat what he had dictated, he has always said: "I will satisfy you and do what you wish some other time," etc. That other time has yet to come.

In other matters also, as for instance the producing of manuscripts which he admitted were in his family house and in his possession, or otherwise under his control, he has often made contradictory statements which have given rise to a presumption of some peculiarity in his nature, such as neuropaths and intellectual *lusus naturæ* often suffer from, especially when they are also labouring under the sad privation of sight.

Taking these facts together, with (1) the obscure, abstruse, and even sometimes uncouth nature of many portions of what has been taken down from him, and with (2) the facts that the Samskr̥ṭ which flows so uninterruptedly from his lips is frequently ungrammatical, as judged

by the standards of Pāṇini, and that the sentences are often incomplete and wanting in *prima facie* connexion with each other, the result has been that many impatient friends who came to “bless” have gone away “cursing”. They have hastily decided that the man was a “humbug” pure and simple, that his utterances were the merest gabble, that whatever portions of them happened to be intelligible were nothing else than pickings from the brains of his friends made during conversation on theosophical and philosophical subjects, and that all his talk about a vast old world of literature buried away in the homes of private families was mere mystification, and even downright deception.

Are these friends right? It is impossible to convince them that they are not, if they are not willing to take into account any other than the two tests mentioned. But a third test remains to be applied; and really it is the only important and satisfactory one to apply in such cases. None of these friends spent more than two or three hours altogether in trying and deciding the case of Dhanaṛāja; some perhaps only as many minutes. What have *they* got to say who have had the patience to spend hundreds, even thousands, of hours in weighing *internal evidence*, the intrinsic merits of the dictated material?

Perhaps I shall not be judged guilty of an improper presumption if I say that I can speak with a certain amount of confidence about the *Pranava-Vāda*. In reducing it to writing, in reading it back to Paṇḍit̃ Dhana-rāja, in reading it over and over again, in writing out marginal notes, in summarising, paraphrasing and translating it into English, and finally taking this summary through the press, I have spent many thousands of hours distributed over a period of nearly ten years, beginning with the 31st of August 1900 and ending with the publication of these volumes. And at the end of all this labour my firm conviction is that it is a work which—with all its shortcomings of obscurity of sense and language, of redundances and verbiages, on the one hand, and excessive compressions on the other, and of a mannerism that is apt to tire a modern reader—is unrivalled in the whole mass of *extant* Samskr̥t literature, and, so far as I am aware through the medium of the English language, in any other philosophical literature also, for profound and all-comprehending metaphysic, for penetrating insight into and luminous solution of the deepest and darkest problems of all life, for incessant proof into and of the breakless interconnexion of all the infinite details of the World-process, for holding up the highest ideals of the fortunes and functions of human evolution, and

finally for a suggestiveness that opens up endless vistas of possible knowledge before the straining eyes of the thinking reader. The only other work *extant* which has the same characteristics of comprehensive helpfulness is *The Secret Doctrine* of H. P. Blavatsky. And that and this supplement each other and make one whole, as metaphysic and science, as abstract and concrete, as principles and details. But the history of the writing of that work, and of its sister-work, *Isis Unveiled*, is even more 'mysterious' and 'suspicious' from the standpoint of the reader who is wholly out of touch with the psychic phenomena of the realm of the superphysical, than this. (See Col. H. S. Olcott's *Old Diary Leaves*, Vols. i. and iii., and *The Secret Doctrine* itself, Vol. i., *Introductory* pp. xxiii, xxiv, *et seq.*)

It is, further, my conviction, also based on the nature of the book, that it is not a work which can have been produced independently of any connected and co-existing literature and science, like Minerva springing full-armed from the forehead of Jupiter, but is necessarily in organic articulation with a whole large mass of literature of a similar nature, and is itself only the essential and all-important typus of a vast-ranging kind of thought which is radically different in its ensouling principle from much of the things now extant. The following quotation has a special value in this reference:

“ . . . MSS., hitherto buried out of . . . reach. . . would again come to light, and with them the key to much of that which was hidden for ages from the popular understanding. . . .”
(Letter of the Master K. H., quoted in A. P. Sinnett's *The Occult World*, p. 115.)

My enthusiasm over the work is probably and naturally excessive, because of the amount of time I have spent over it, and of the personal reasons mentioned before. But after discounting all such excess, I believe that there will still be left behind for every reader a tangible residuum of justifiable appreciation. As an English friend who started with a bias against rather than for the work, remarked to me, after looking through a considerable portion of the translation in manuscript: “There is stuff in it; it should be published.”

Of such merit (or otherwise) in the work, the reader can and will, of course, form his own opinion, and which is said above is only by way of general recommendation to him to read what, I earnestly believe, will be helpful to him.

But one thing remains to be mentioned in this connexion, of which the reader would ordinarily not have an opportunity of judging, and which I therefore add here as matter of personal experience. It is this: Paṇḍit̃ Dhana-rāja, from what I have seen of him, has no more the power of creating this work out of his own

intelligence than he has of creating the solar system. He lived with me for five months. I sat in his company for many hours almost every day of these months, with one break of three weeks. And I know that he does not understand some portions of the book, which are not unintelligible to the student of theosophy.

I have often discussed the sense of passages with him, and he has often admitted that his previous explanation was wrong and mine right, after consulting (as he said) in his own memory, of course, what he called Gobhili's commentary on the *Prāṇava-Vāda*, two or three fragments from which commentary also I have taken down from him, just for curiosity. Again I have tried to converse with him, in ordinary modern Samskr̥t, on every day matters, and he has found it difficult, or at least given me the impression, by his halting and laboured efforts, that he found it difficult, to construct half a dozen sentences in either modern Samskr̥t or that of the works he dictates. He has always given me the impression that while he was no doubt a more than commonly intelligent man, his intelligence was of the kind to give him a general understanding of the meaning and value of what he was dictating; not of the kind to enable him to discover and put forth the ideas and words newly himself, or even, always, to make that significance explicit

to others, who could often see more in his words than he himself could do.

Also, as collateral facts in support of the view that the *Praṇava-Vāda* existed in Paṇḍit Dhana-rāja's memory as a completed whole, before he began dictating it to me, may be mentioned these:—Before beginning the work, I asked him what its extent was in shloka-measures, in order to calculate the total amount of time needed, and to regulate my daily routine accordingly. He unhesitatingly mentioned 16,000 shloka-measures, and my manuscript, on completion, bore out the truth of the statement. This manuscript consists of 535 pages of ruled foolscap, each page containing thirty-four lines of writing, and each line from twenty-five to thirty-two letters, or on an average twenty-eight letters, thirty-two letters making one shloka-measure. Again, from time to time, as we completed one section or chapter or part, he stated the progressive total of shloka-measures reached, and also stated beforehand the shloka-measures in the next section or chapter. All these statements have been justified by the manuscript. Moreover, when I was reading over to him the previous day's work, he frequently made small corrections, and more than once asked me, incidentally, to refer back to such and such a place, in order to verify the consistency of the correction with a previous statement in the text,

and he directed me to that previous statement by saying how far back, in approximate shloka-measures, I should refer. Also, the Author's Preface, dictated to me *after* the text of the work was completed, contains a fair and orderly table of the contents of the whole, and supplies indirectly the memory-test discussed before.

The theory that he picks the material for his 'pretended' old works out of the brains of those with whom he conversed will not stand examination. In the first place, even if he had the ability to pick others' brains of ideas, which in itself is no mean power, he had not, as said before, sufficient Samskr̥t to clothe them. Secondly, to confine ourselves to the *Praṇāva-Vāda*, the book contains far more than I had ever dreamt of; while the root-ideas are the same as already existed in my mind, these ideas have been applied, in the book, to fields of knowledge to which I was quite unable to apply them. There is a large mass of details there which was never in my waking consciousness at least. Theories as to their having been present in my sub- or supra-consciousness, and Dhana-rāja having absorbed them by telepathy, or of their being dictated by a "familiar" spirit—are all less in accordance with the well-recognised law of scientific and philosophic investigation and postulation of hypotheses, *viz.*, the Law of Parsimony, which requires that the simplest

possible hypothesis should be adopted, than the supposition that the Paṇḍit was repeating parrot-like what he had learnt by rote. It should be stated here, that Paṇḍit Dhanarāja himself, when such suggestions were made to him in the way of enquiry, emphatically repudiated all such explanations, and insisted that it was pure memory. When pressed to say if he felt nothing abnormal and peculiar when dictating these works, he said whenever he was making these great efforts of memory he felt something like a thread or nerve working up and down between his eyes within the forehead. This *might* mean the stimulation of the physical memory by the working of some subtler sense of sight or rather of hearing, for by his account, he never himself *saw* and *read* the books, being blind, but only *heard* them read out, and impressed them on his memory only through the sense of hearing.

The possibility that the Paṇḍit has reproduced and dictated matter which he has studied and digested and thought out and systematised for himself independently, in the same way that great orators and practising lawyers and scientific and philosophical lecturers and preachers have in ancient and modern times orally delivered large works which are studied with profit by generations—this possibility may be considered from another standpoint.

I have already said that my own experience

of the Paṇḍit's intelligence and ability is that they are not enough to account for the *Praṇava-Vāḍa*. The other standpoint from which the question may be considered, assuming my judgment of his abilities to be wrong, is that of the question: What motive had the Paṇḍit to tell the lie that the work is not his own, when it is? Of course this enquiry can proceed only on the assumption that the work has some merit and is not mere gabble; otherwise, it is obvious, the query is superfluous, and the whole discussion falls to the ground.

The question then is, why should not the Paṇḍit claim the rightful credit of the authorship of such a remarkable work? If he did so, he would win a certain amount of fame and honour or, if he was above such considerations, would be doing the plain duty of telling the truth. He seemed to have nothing to gain by persisting in a false repudiation of authorship. I can find no satisfactory answer to this question. The only answer that can be possibly advanced on the data we have, is the unsatisfactory one that he is eccentric. Of course a certain amount of eccentricity has to be assigned to him on the other hypothesis also, viz., that he has really committed a genuine old work to memory from a manuscript which was read out to him, and has now dictated it, but will not repeat what he has dictated once.

But between the two eccentricities, the latter seems to have some method in it. It is possible that he declines to undergo tests of memory either for fear of making mistakes which might be made too much of, or for some other reasons, such as promises made to those with whom he studied, which he does not wish to be known publicly. The other eccentricity, of falsely repudiating authorship, does not show even such traces of method.

A statement here as to the *Gobhili-Bhāṣhya* on the *Bhagavad Gītā*, about 26,000 shloka-measures in extent, all dictated by the blind man to Paṇḍit Parmeshrī Dās, would also be helpful as evidence in enabling the reader to form his own conclusions as to the genuineness of Dhanaarāja's performances. I myself have not had time enough to read through the whole of this systematically. Paṇḍit Gaṅgānāth Jhā has, however, been kind enough, at my request, to do so, and he has also made an abstract in English of its interpretation of the *Gītā*. He says that the work has a perfectly rational consistency and a distinct style and manner of its own, and refers to very many other old works now unknown even by name; but, he adds, the work has nothing remarkably new or extraordinary, or not now generally known, to tell us; and is therefore disappointing in respect of any expectations of esoteric interpretation and occult

knowledge. The portions that I have myself succeeded in studying, of this book confirm Paṇḍit Gaṅgānāth's view. I should add, however, that there is a good deal in it which is very suggestive of new ideas, and stimulates thought to work along unusual directions in a reader with the necessary turn of mind. The characters of the *Mahābhārata* story, Yudhiṣṭhira, Arjuna, Duryodhana, etc., are also explained in the first chapter as allegorical symbols of various conditions and moods of the mind ; and this is distinctly new, or at least not extant. The set manner of commenting is to take each word and postulate in succession a number of meanings, on the strength of the explanations of the word given in various *Koshas* (dictionaries), and to refute each hypothesis by reasons, till the last and correct meaning is left behind, and this is generally in accordance with the (old) *Nirukṭa*. Briefly, the method followed is the approved method of *Vedānta*, *aḍhyāropa*, i.e., superimposition, assumption by hypothesis, and then *apavāda*, i.e., refutation.

Considering all these facts together, the proper conclusion to draw seems to me to be that while Paṇḍit Dhanarāja may have indulged in exaggerations, mystifications, sensationalism, sometimes even divergences from truth, and self-contradictions, there is behind and beneath all these a certain amount of basic truth which

makes it eminently desirable that persons with better opportunities and abilities than I have had at my disposal, should systematically take up the work of investigation and search for old MSS. on the spot.

To reiterate, with respect to the *Praṇava-Vāda*, over and above all other considerations must always stand the consideration of the inherent merits of the work itself. It has always been the test of truth that it should be independent of the virtues and vices, perfections and failings of any one individual, that it should not be claimable as the exclusive property or invention of any one person, and that even in connexion with the mere *discovery* of any truth the personality should remain or become doubtful, so that the truth may stand on its own feet and not on those of any passing mortal. The best work generally is, or rapidly becomes, nameless. Truth is the property of every one. Why should any one be allowed to claim it exclusively? Those ideas only are really true to every one which come home to every one, which every one feels he has himself discovered or always possessed. Even such works as the great epics and dramas of the nations, different as they are in nature from scientific or metaphysical truths, become nameless—because they embody that surpassing excellence of description which makes them truths of psychology and ethics. What do we

know of Vālmiki or Vyāsa or Homer? Even Shakespeare is becoming shadowy. Well may the *Pranava-Vāḍa*, then, rest on its own merits and well may its authorship remain always doubtful! Facts, laws, theories, should be judged in themselves, independently of who propounds them. The way in which *Isis Unveiled* and *The Secret Doctrine* have been given to the world has been already referred to. The Paurāṇic story tells how Indra came to Uṭanka disguised as a foul chāṇḍāla, and offered him the nectar of immortality in that guise. Uṭanka refused to take it and lost his chance, for the time being. Truth often comes to its votary in uncouth garb, just to test whether the votary loves it or only the garb; to test whether he has developed the keenness and strength of eyesight which can discern it unerringly beneath all changes of outer form—*when* only he can really profit by it; or whether he is yet too feeble of mental vision and grasp to be able to successfully perceive and hold it. “One of the most valuable effects of Upāsikā’s (H. P. Blavatsky’s) mission is that it drives men to self-study and destroys in them blind servility to persons.” (Letter from a Master quoted in Col. Olcott’s *Old Diary Leaves* Vol. iii. p. 92.) So let us judge the *Pranava-Vāḍa* by its own merits, whatever the quality or the name of the writer may be.

Before concluding this section of the introduc-

tion I wish to state that I have appeared to myself as rather wanting in appreciation and gratitude, while writing as I have written about the blind Pandit. But I have done so and pointed out his shortcomings myself only in order that others, less sympathetic, less appreciative, less bound by gratitude, may not do it in a worse form, with exaggeration and without balance. I have acted on the instinct which makes a brother feel that for any sin he may have committed, he would rather be punished by his own brother, who, even in inflicting the stroke, would feel sad, would feel that he was cleansing and purifying for rehabilitation, than by the public gaoler, who would have no such sympathy and yearnings.

My gratitude to him is deep indeed for the confirmation and amplification he has brought to me of my most cherished views, for the hopes he has given me of further discovery, for having accepted me as the repository of one of his most precious possessions, without any obvious and sufficient reason and remuneration of any kind. Holding the views I hold about him, his shortcomings arouse in me only the affectionate sympathy due to the neuropath, the genius encased in a frail body, the sensitive and shrinking soul bound to a sightless frame, that has not met in the early years of life the friendliness that aroused

confidence and trust, but the want of sympathy that leaves behind a permanent apprehension of pain from others.

I earnestly hope that no reader of mine will make this mistake, of imagining me to be wanting in gratitude to the Paṇḍit, who compares these few pages of a criticism that is only intended to disarm worse criticism, that is only intended to uphold justice as against blind partiality on the one hand and equally blind condemnation on the other, with the many pages of the summary of the *Prāṇava-Vāda* that are the most expressive embodiment of my appreciation of him.

IV.

THE NATURE OF THE PRAṆAVA-VĀDA.

A tradition, common all over India, is that the world is derived from *Veda* (which etymologically means Knowledge and which contains all knowledge whatsoever), that the essence and source of the *Veda* is the *Gāyatrī* with certain *Mahā Vākyas*, and that these, finally, are born from the *Aum*. Consequently the *Praṇava* (which is the name of the sound *Aum*, pronounced as *Ōm*) is the most sacred of sounds. Such is the tradition. But what the reason for it is, is not quite clear. The *Māṇḍūkya*, the *Tāra-Sāra*, and other *Upaniṣads*, the *Gopātha Brāhmaṇa*, and *Tantra*-works give many elaborate and instructive interpretations of the three letters A, U and M, of which this sound is made up; but none seems sufficient to justify such an all-comprehensive claim as is made by the tradition.

The *Praṇava-Vāda* justifies it. It explains that A stands for the Self, U for the Not-Self and M, for the relation of negation which exists between them. It is obvious that these three factors, or rather two factors and the nexus between them, exhaust the All without leaving behind any remainder.

The AUM, thus, is equivalent to the Idea or Consciousness "I-This-Not (am)". The three factors of this single, partless, timeless, spaceless and motionless consciousness, in the simultaneous affirmation and negation involved in their juxtaposition, constitute the triune Brahman, the Absolute, which is at once the Changeless as well as the exhaustless storehouse of all change and of all that changes.

All the main facts of the World-process are deduced from this logion, which is shown as the one law of all laws, all other laws being corollaries from it.

The permutations and combinations of the three factors give rise to various subordinate *Mahā-vākyas*, great sentences, logia, each of which represents one principal law or method governing the World-process. Four, the most important, form the foundations of the four *Veḍas* respectively—the *Aṭharva* dealing with the logion, "I-This-Not", itself, and summing up the other three *Veḍas* and their logia. Twenty-four other logia, next in importance, are each represented by one letter of the *Gāyatrī*. The *Veḍas* may be regarded as an extended interpretation of the significance of the *Gāyatrī*.

The interplay between the A and the U, the Self and the Not-Self, by affirmation and then negation, gives rise to the Jīva, or individual Ego, and to various triplets of qualities or

attributes in Spirit and Matter. The most important are Cognition, Desire and Action in the former, and Substantiality, Sensuous Quality, and Mobility in the latter. The Samskr̥t equivalents are jñāna, ichchhā and kriyā, and dṛavya, guṇa and karma respectively.

The *Rg-Veda* deals with jñāna, Cognition, Knowledge, predominantly. The *Yajuh* with kriyā, action. The *Sāma* with ichchhā, desire. The *Atharva* with the summation of them all. Each of these is reflected and re-reflected endlessly in the others, giving occasion for the statement, in the work, of much valuable and exceedingly interesting and suggestive information on the psychology of cognition, desire, and action.

The outlines of the whole of the World-process, and consequently the whole circle of human knowledge, are laid down in terms of Vedic technicalities, under the headings of : (1) the *Vedas*, with their fourfold sub-division into (a) *Samhitā* or *Mantra*, (b) *Brāhmaṇa*, (c) *Upaniṣad*, and (d) *Upaveda*, or *Tantra*, and their developments into the (e) *Kṛṣṇa* and *Shukla Shākhās*, or *Yantra*, the Black and White branches, of each *Veda*; (2) the six *Āṅgas*; and (3) the six *Upāṅgas*. Each of these is divided and sub-divided endlessly; and many derivative and intermediate sciences are mentioned.

Metaphysical explanations of the sacraments are given.

Cycles of time and space with their respective Rulers or Īshvaras are touched upon. The nature of mukṭi is discussed in terms of the logion. The various *Āṅgas* and *Upāṅgas*, sciences and philosophies, are shown to be consistent parts of one organic whole. Spiritual and material evolution, through mineral, vegetable, animal, human, and various other kingdoms, astral or elemental, and the development of sixth and seventh senses in future cycles, are referred to. And the high destiny and the ultimate development of jīvas into Īshvaras and creators of ever new world-systems, and the real as well as technical significance of mokṣha, are described with great fulness.

It should be emphatically noted in conclusion, that whatever else the matter of the book may be, it is entirely and absolutely unique. There is nothing like it to be found in extant Sanskr̥t works.

One question will inevitably strike the modern reader at this point. Is there any connexion, any reconciliation possible, between this profound interpretation of the *Veḍas*, which goes to justify the exaggerated, nay, extravagant-seeming reverence traditionally paid to them in India, on the one hand, and, on the other, that recent interpretation of them which looks upon

them as “the babblings of child-humanity,” the improvisations of rival bards of warring and semi-savage tribes, the incantations of fetish-worshippers, a medley of the natural beauty and poetry of primeval man, and the artificial customs and superstitious born of animal terrors and malice, and worship and propitiation of anthropomorphised sun and moon and fire and wind and rain?

This is a difficult question to answer. It is not possible to pooh-pooh the *Praṇava-Vāda* after carefully reading it; it is not possible to ignore all the results of modern scholarship and research; and yet the one pictures saints and sages, and the other ill-trained, even savage, children! But perhaps we have the explanation and reconciliation in these very words. The grandfather and the child riding on his knee form parts of the same congruous picture, and not of two incongruous ones. The objection to which the modern theory is open, *viz.*, the assumption involved in it that children are able not only to appreciate highly poetical and allegorical tales, but to write them, is also obviated by this explanation. The grandfather Brahmā, the Piṭāmaha, *par excellence*, the Manus and Ṛṣhis, the Hierarchs, Guides and Guardians of the Human Race, explain to their first children the facts and laws of Nature, in language which because of their comprehensive thought is corres-

pondingly comprehensive of all possible good and evil aspects of the World-process; the children understand only the story-aspect of them, and very often misunderstand and misapply them too. When the modern scientist says that plants compete with each other for food, that they marry, that they beget children, and that they make the best provision in their power for their children, he is talking poetical myths as well as rigorous science; if his hearers misunderstand him it is little fault of his. This is only one consideration which seems the most generally applicable. For detailed discussions and facts and other considerations bearing on the subject, the student who has not already finally made up his mind that the scriptures of nations are babble, should study theosophical literature generally. The *Praṇava-Vāda* will of course be of much help to him, although it does not deal with interpretations of *Veda*-texts directly.

V.

THE MANNER OF THE BOOK.

THE matter of the book has been indicated, in the briefest possible hints, above. Its manner is, generally speaking, to make a statement on each sub-head in more intelligible and modern-like prose, and then subjoin a sort of mnemonic summary in less intelligible and archaic verse, which seems (and is said by Paṇḍit Dhanarāja) to be quoted from older works. The verses dealing with the detail of each department of the World-process are mostly in the Anuṣṭup-metre; those which, by antithesis, describe the nature of the Absolute 'as transcending these details' are in another longer and more musical metre. These verses illustrate the poetry of rigorous and powerful metaphysic, as distinguished from the less rigorous and, therefore, softer and sweeter metaphysic of the Sūfī poets of Persia. So far as I am aware, there are not many instances of it in western literature. Some sonnets by Fichte, some pieces by the mediæval mystics, and Lucretius' poem on Nature would be such. It is difficult to understand what a hymn to the Absolute can be. These verses help us to understand.

In connexion with these archaic verses, it may be interesting to note that Paṇḍit Dhanarāja

once made a statement to the effect that there were many 'layers' in Samskr̥t literature, of which the *Veḍas*, and their coeval works in expansion or exposition of them, including the first works on *Aṅga* and *Upāṅga*, constituted the first layer. He also stated that all this first layer was the work of gods of various degrees, *Avatāras*, descended upon earth for special purposes. These are the works called *Ārchita* in the *Pranava-Vāḍa*. He added that of this first layer he had succeeded in finding and learning only the *Veḍa*-text itself and not the *Aṅgas* or *Upāṅgas*; and that what he found on these subjects were works of the second layer, reproductions of the first layer, in the same way as a subsequent crop is a reproduction of the first through the seeds left behind from the first, made by Ṛṣhis, progressed human jīvas, in accordance with the laws and the requirements of succeeding cycles of evolution.

Something of the kind is observable in the growth and decay of even recent literature. One main idea expressible in an aphorism is started by a thinker; expansions and commentaries embodying cognate ideas grow round it, till the bulk becomes insupportable; then abstracts and redactions begin, till the whole is reduced to a number of aphorisms, tables of contents, so to say; and then the whole process begins again. Careful divisions of sub-heads,

the demarcation of the more important from the less important, by means of larger and smaller types respectively, even the use of distinct aphorisms, is observable in modern scientific and philosophical literature, too, notably in German works.

To return to the manner of the *Praṇava-Vāda*. In the endeavour to make the inseparable connexion and the interdependence of all parts of the work, as of the World-process, perfectly unmistakable, there is an incessant reference throughout the book to the Logion and to facts and laws previously stated. This leads to repetition, which often becomes burdensome to a reader who does not specially delight in intellectual pugilism, and, either for want of leisure or of inclination, is desirous only to have the essential ideas clearly put before him, and willing to take the details on trust, without perpetual argumentation, or even to forego them altogether.

On the subject of these repetitions, and also of the digressions under which the book labours, the following facts may be noted:

It is well known that the Indian syllogism has five steps or propositions which deduce the desired conclusions from the necessary premises, and also include the induction which is the basis of the deduction. In it the conclusion appears twice, in the place of the first proposition as a

thesis *to be proved*, and again at the end as a thesis *proved*. It is the following of this method generally by the author of the work that produces in it what will appear to the reader in English, a cumbersome repetition. To the reader in Samskr̥t it does not appear so very tedious ; perhaps the repetition may sometimes give him even some intellectual pleasure, as carrying with it a sense of power, of “driving the conclusion home”. I have omitted such repetition in the translation as far as possible.

Another cause of repetition is that after expounding a certain system of ideas in his own prose, the author sums them up in verses which, as said above, appear to be taken from more ancient writings, and string together the ideas in very abrupt fashion, almost by mere lists of single words, each expressing the most important element of an idea. These also I have largely omitted. On the other hand, the space thus gained by omissions has at least partly been spent in the numerous sentences or words that I have added within brackets where the sense of the author was made doubtful by the opposite defect of too much brevity.

As to digressions, a person looking cursorily into the paragraphs one after another, on page after page of the book, will perhaps think that he has never come across a more disjointed and disorderly collection of ideas. But if he will look

carefully at the ends and the beginnings of paragraphs in succession, he will generally discern a good transition made out. And at the end of the longest apparent digression he will unexpectedly find the author returning rigorously to the idea from which he seemed to have drifted away so completely.

But, even so, the reader will not be able to avoid feeling very frequently that the transition is made over a bridge constructed only of a word. That is to say, because a number of words have been used to describe an idea, any one of these words has been taken up at random, and an idea seemingly totally unrelated has been expounded therefrom simply because that word happens to have a place in the description of that idea also. But the connexion is not a merely superficial one. A very instructive psychological or metaphysical alliance between the ideas is hidden underneath the surface, in the etymology of the word, and is the reason why the word occurs in the description of the two seemingly disconnected ideas.

Finally, in connexion with the manner of the work, I would mention that the whole book is pervaded by an all-embracing charity and benevolence, by the highest possible ideas and conceptions of human life and evolution, by the constant aim of elevating the student and by an incessant endeavour to bring together and

harmonise and unify all possible differences of view, and show them as being due only to differences of standpoint. It rigorously eschews and deprecates discord to this extent that we do not meet with a single word even of polemical condemnation of any view. The ethical and metaphysical level of the work is so high that it has nothing in common with ordinary works of philosophy, but stands out rather as a scripture, wise and calm and earnestly compassionate.

With these eulogies on the merits of my author I pass on to a few observations as regards the nature of the present translation and summary.

VI.

THE NATURE OF THE PRESENT TRANSLATION AND SUMMARY.

I began the translation into English of the *Pranava-Vāḍa* shortly after the writing down of the original had been completed, that is to say in the summer of 1901, when I was staying in Shrīnagar, Kāshmir, for a few months. I may mention here incidentally that I made enquiries there also, as one of the principal seats of Samskr̥t learning in India, of many Paṇḍiṭs; but they too all professed entire ignorance about any such work as the *Pranava-Vāḍa*. In Shrīnagar I completed only the translation of the preface and a few pages of the first section. Then, for various reasons, mainly that I was busy with *The Science of Peace* on the one hand and with work connected with the Central Hindū College, Benares, on the other, the translation was laid aside. On my return to Benares, I took it up again, but at the third section, which was the easiest to follow in point of language and also contained a large amount of varied information. About half of this section (which constitutes quite three-fourths of the whole work) I translated systematically. Then, getting a little tired of the mannerism, I took up portions here and there as I found them

interesting. This kind of work continued, with many long and short breaks caused by press of other unavoidable duties, till the whole was finished.

This method of work naturally left behind many defects. The portions that I took up first I translated in entirety and with greater adherence to the letter of the text. In those that I did later, as I became more and more familiar with the author's ways of thought and consequently more sure of the meaning of his language, I have thought more of the sense than of the word, more of the spirit than the letter, and have allowed myself a little more freedom in the use of the English language. In many places I have condensed or omitted altogether, in some paraphrased, in others expanded, in a few cases, especially those of the metrical hymns to the Absolute, I have used the text only as a basis. But in most cases where I have used words which are not directly justified by equivalent or corresponding words in the immediate text, though so justified by sentences occurring elsewhere, I have enclosed these words within brackets.

Finally I may mention that it was my intention at first to publish the translation and the text without any intermediate work, but I was advised by friends on whose judgment in such matters I rely, that a full summary in English

of the work would be more desirable to begin with. The present summary is the result. The remarks in which I have described the translation practically describe the summary also, with this difference, that the condensations are much more frequent, in all sections except the third. In the third I have made many more extracts from the full translation than in the other five, which do not give so many details of facts. With these extracts, indeed, I believe that the summary so fully reproduces and represents the original that a literal translation, even after omitting the palpable repetitions, would perhaps add little to the reader's information, and the publication of one may possibly be a waste of energy. However, this matter will be decided by the amount of interest that this summary arouses. If it succeeds in attracting attention, the next step ought to be the publication of the full original text.

BHAGAVĀN DĀS.

श्रेयस्कामस्तव नित्यं यतोऽसा-
 वात्माऽन्वेषे श्रान्तं त्वां च मन्यते ।
 मुनिर्गिरां कारुणिकीं परामिमां
 कल्याणार्थं तव तस्मात् संदिदेश ॥

नेयं गिरा कर्महीनेन लभ्या
 न चाऽपि बोध्या योगमृते तपश्च ।
 यं व्युपनीतं मात्रीयति तेन लभ्या
 जगद्बृहदयं विवृणुते तस्य चेयम् ॥

PRELIMINARY NOTE

by the translator.

(1) In this summary, words and sentences for which there is not a full or express equivalent in the original Samskr̥ṭ text of the R̥ṣhi Gārgyāyana, but which are implied by the context and generally supported by express text elsewhere in the work, and which it has been thought desirable to add in order to bring out the sense fully or to supply a missing link in the chain of thought, are enclosed within brackets. A doubt as to the exact meaning of the text is marked by a query-sign, (?), within brackets also.

(2) All Samskr̥ṭ words with meanings translatable into English equivalents, begin with small type, like ordinary words, but are spaced out

ls which are proper
ces, etc., are printed
gin with capitals.

which have a more or
g, but indicate the
s of the World-process
are also spaced out.

The corresponding English equivalents also begin with capitals.

(5) Names of books, or parts of books, or classes of literature, and verbal expressions of thought generally, are usually printed in italics, *e. g.*, *Ādarśhanas*, *Purāṇas*, *Veḍas*, *Mahāvākyas*, *Gāyatrī*, etc. But it has not been possible always to adhere to these rules rigorously.

(6) A U M is always printed in full capitals.

(7) While the endeavour has been generally to make the summary readable English, at times the manner of the original Samskr̥t has been reproduced more exactly, to emphasise the way of the thought, or exhibit a peculiarity specially worthy of notice. Footnotes have been added to bring out the sense of the text in the more familiar terms and turns of thought of to-day; those very kindly contributed by Mrs. Annie Besant bear her initials in brackets at the end.

It may be noted here that this work is of interest mainly to those readers who attach value to the philosophical or metaphysical presentation of things, the 'thinking consideration' of the changes in incessant progress all around us; who wish to understand the world in terms of consciousness, of life, of the first person. And, further, it may be recalled to the mind of such readers that metaphysical ideas, by their very nature, are the reverse of 'precise' and 'clear-cut' in the sense in which concrete

sensuous facts are 'precise' or 'clear-cut.' When a reader therefore feels inclined to be impatient at the 'heaping together' of words which at first sight seem superfluous or hazy or inconsistent, he is requested to wait a while and by-and-by the justification, the mutual supplementation, the underlying connexion by means of a common notion, intangible but unmistakable, will be felt by him. Metaphysic is 'completely-unified knowledge,' is the system of the ultimate 'laws' of nature traced down to One Law which holds together all 'facts.' The 'facts' are, or at least have the appearance of being, 'concrete' and 'precise'; the 'laws' are 'vague' and 'elastic,' to bind together the facts livingly.

PRANAVA-VĀDA

BY

G Ā R G Y Ā Y A N A.

PREFACE

(by *Gārgyāyana*).

This preface is more in the nature of a table of contents than a *bhūmikā* proper, a 'ground-plan,' a foundation, an introduction showing the position of the subject-matter of the work among other subjects. The reason for this is that the work treats of the A U M, which (as has of course to be shown in the book) includes *everything*; and the *relative* words, ground-plan and super-structure, indicative of separate and mutually exclusive position are inappropriate in consequence; thus, the word 'ground-plan' would indicate something not included in, but outside of and leading up to the work.

I. The first section of the work deals with the synthesis and the analysis of the constituents of A U M. The A signifies *Ātmanā*, the Self, by opposition to the unity of which all the multitude of particulars is derived. For this very reason have we to begin with the *Ātmanā*. For, though it is true that the three constituents

of the AUM are in constant conjunction, and there cannot be any *order* of precedence and succedence between things thus constantly conjoined, still, the *description* of even such things belongs inevitably to the realm of the successive. And if we must begin with some one thing, and pass on in succession to talk of others, and cannot talk of all things at once, then the Self, the nearest to us, is naturally the most appropriate with which to make a commencement.

Having begun with the Self, we pass on to the Not-Self, indicated by the U, and then to the relation between them, the relation of Negation of one another, denoted by the M. The Necessity, the Energy, the principle of the successive conjunction and disjunction of the Self and the Not-Self in and by the Negation, is expressed by the symbolic letter I, which lies hidden in the other three, in coalescence with them, in universal world-fact as well as in the particular language of Samskr̥t according to the archaic rules of its grammar.¹

¹ See *infra*, Section III, Ch. XVIII, for an explanation of this. It should be noted that the I mentioned here is not the English word I, meaning the Self, but the Samskr̥t letter, इ, in the same way as A, U, and M, are the Samskr̥t अ, उ, म, which in their coalescence make up the sacred sound ॐ, AUM, generally pronounced OM.

These four, A, U, M, and I, which together make up AUM, respectively correspond to cognition, desire, action, and the summation of them all. And because the first section of this work treats in a general way of these all-embracing facts, therefore it may be said to include in itself all the contents of the whole work.

Having given the general outlines of the nature of the three patent factors of the AUM, the first section goes on to lay down some wide-reaching principles.

The nature of the AUM is transcendental. It is comparable to the World-process with which, indeed, it is, in a certain sense, identical, because it transcends all limitations, and the *whole* of its contents and details is *endless*, and may not be encompassed by any finite individual. Gods upon gods, Mahā-Viṣṇu and ever higher and higher deities, comprehend only larger and larger masses of it in an endless seeking.

This illimitability of the succession of the World-process is but a reflexion, in the Many, of the unlimitedness, the transcendence of all limitations, of the One Self. And this illimitability appears and reappears in each atom, each one of the many, so that it is impossible to fix a first beginning and a last end for anything.

The Science of the AUM, the order of succession of its three factors, is coeval with the

World-process and comes down to us by a beginningless tradition. Mahā-Viṣṇu himself first learnt the A, and then the other letters, and then the words formed out of them, all preceded by the AUM. All the śāstras, sciences, begin with it. Hence the study of the AUM should precede every other study. And therein, again, precedence should be given to the study of the prakṛti, *i. e.* the original, simple, unmodified nature of the constituents, and sequence given to the study of their sandhi or coalescence. Hence this first section is named the *Sandhi-Prakṛti-Prakaraṇa*.

II. The principles, causes, or natural constitutions, which result in yoga or mutual relation, and the prakāra or manner of these conjunctions and interdependences, between all things, despite their vibhāga or separateness, are dealt with in the second section called the *Yoga-Prakāra-Prakaraṇa*. The order or succession which is implied in these relations, and the methods and laws which in turn are implied in the succession, are also dealt with. And cognition and desire are also treated of in connexion with them.

III. The third section, the *Kriyā-Prakaraṇa*, is the largest in the work. It covers three-fourths of the whole and is sub-divided into many parts and chapters. It deals with action,

which presupposes cognition and desire. And for this same reason, in this section, the whole circle of knowledge and all the *śāstras* or sciences are outlined. The seed and origin of all things whatsoever that are to be found in the World-process is traced back into the AUM, and shown as present in the interplay of the Self and the Not-Self, the Limited and the Unlimited ; and, finally, the nature of action and reaction, actor, instrument, object, motive, etc., is explained.

In connexion with the element of knowledge or cognition involved in action, there are described herein the successive evolution, from the AUM, of the *Gāyatrī* and the *Mahā-vākyas*, the *Veḍas*, the *Aṅgas*, the *Upāṅgas*, etc. Then follow considerations as to volition, *i.e.*, desire in action, active desire. Then numbers are spoken of as lying at the root of manifest action proper, the creation of the worlds. Afterwards, the seven root-elements, their qualities and activities, and their dissolution and repeated formation are mentioned.

IV. The section following the above, called the *Śṛṣṭy-aikaḍeshika-Prakaraṇa*, very briefly mentions the broad outlines of the evolution of our own particular world-system, our *brahmāṇḍa*, in the mineral, the vegetable, the animal with their *chitrās* (pictures, shadows,

or astral duplicates), the *chandrātmā*¹ (lunar?) and two other intervening kingdoms, and finally the human kingdom. It touches upon the constitution of the human organism also. The subtler or elemental evolutions preceding the mineral are only passingly alluded to.

V. The fifth section is entitled the *Manṭavy-Āmanṭavya-Prakaraṇa*, the thinkable and the unthinkable, or the believable and the unbelievable. It discusses the nature of existence and non-existence, transcendence (of the experiential or empirical, the concrete, the limited, the particular and successive), and non-transcendence, necessity and non-necessity, *i. e.*, chance or accidentality or contingency, etc., and explains what to believe and do, and also how (from the standpoint of the whole) there is nothing unbelievable or undoable. It points out how everything whatsoever has its own proper place in the Universal Nature of Brahman, the Absolute, and how separateness is included in the Non-separate.

¹ The theosophical books give seven kingdoms in the chain of globes in which our earth forms one; three elemental kingdoms—in which matter is being shaped into the requisite density and acquires the necessary attributes for the visible kingdoms—one mineral kingdom, one vegetable, one animal, one human. It is not clear what is meant by the

VI. In the last section the oneness of all things is shown. All acts and facts are synthesised in the One. *Mokṣha*, liberation, is explained as being the abolition and Negation of all the 'particulars' of the World-process in the fullness, the allness and the unity of the Self. The *mukṭa*, the liberated, the emancipated, realises the mutual abolition of all things by each other in pairs.

VII. The whole of the work may be regarded as the completing seventh which sums up all the six sections.

The immediate occasion for the composition of the work of which the contents have been indicated above may now be noted.

The Science of the *Pranava* is necessary at the very outset of all study, because only by means of it are the reconciliation and synthesis of all sciences possible. Without the help of this supreme and all comprehensive science, the various sciences, which are but parts of it, appear as disjointed, separate, independent and even mutually contradictory, as is shown in the *Nyāya* system of philosophy. For

Chandṛātma and two other kingdoms, between the animal and the human; allusion may possibly be made here to the Lunar Piṭṛs, who gave their *chhāyās* as model for the human form, since they may be said to intervene, in a sense, between the animal and the human kingdoms. (A. B.)

this reason larger and smaller works on the Science of the AUM have been written and used in all times, according to the needs and capacities of the races concerned, and the special requirements of each cycle. *Praṇava-vivēchinī*, *Praṇava-prabhā*, and *Praṇava-praḍī-pikā* are previous works on the same subject, of very small extent and fit for the study of children. There is the great *Praṇavārṇava*¹ also on the other hand. The present work named *Praṇava-vāda*, has an extent of sixteen thousand *śloka*-measures,² and has been written in order to convey to youthful students some general knowledge of the science so far as I myself have been able feebly to gather it from ancient works.

I pray that the many shortcomings of the work be forgiven and I earnestly exhort all to study this illuminating science, in some way or other, as it is the very root of the knowledge contained in the *Veḍas* with their *Āṅgas* and *Upāṅgas* and is the only means of realising the true Unity of all things and beings.

¹ Said by Pt. Dhanaṛāja to be the work of Shiva himself and to extend over two hundred thousand *śloka*-measures.

² A 'śloka-measure' technically means thirty-two syllables; four quarters, of eight syllables each, make up one *śloka* in the *anushtup* metre, which is the most common in Samskr̥t literature.

SECTION I.

*Sandhi-Prakṛti-Prakarana.*¹

THE ULTIMATES IN THEIR PRIMAL NATURE AND
THEIR COALESCENCE.

A as the Self.—U as the Not-Self.—M as the relation of Negation between them.—The tri-unity of the World-process, and the triplicity of every factor of it.—Illustrations.

The purpose of this work is to explain the World-process, the laws that govern it, the order that prevails in it, and the necessity of every factor of it—all as contained in and evolving out of the sacred three-lettered word-sound AUM.

This world is triple everywhere, in all its departments. Thus, we have: being, non-being, and their mutual pervasion, *i.e.*, becoming; three kinds of *g u ṇ a s* or attributes; three kinds of time ; three main objects of enquiry, *Prakṛti*, matter, nature, *Jīvātma*, the individual ego, and *Paramātmā*, the Supreme

¹It would probably be better for the reader to begin with Section II, and for the time at least, omit this first Section which is rather like a string of aphorisms, uninteresting in the absence of explanatory comment.

Ego ; birth, life and death, etc. This trilateral trinity or triplicity of the world is embodied in the three-lettered AUM ¹.

¹ The reader should realise that the triplicity of the universe is based on the fundamental trinity of the Self, the Not-Self, and the Relation between them, with the summation of the three, the All, Brahman, forming the Tetractys, or the Abstract Quaternary. This is again reflected continually on the lower planes, and the unifying process constantly consists in finding the summation, and in self-identification with it, so that the trinity becomes the quaternary, and the quaternary is realised as the One. It is well also to remember that the intervening Duad has numberless representations in nature ; the One—Brahman—gives rise to Two—Pratyagātma and Mūlaprakṛti—and the Two, by juxta-position, inevitably become the Three—the Relation between them forming the third factor ; then these Three are summed up as the Four—Brahman making the Tetraktys. From these comes the concrete world-system, the Fifth, itself in all its manifestations being five-fold, each manifestation containing the five elements. In these the Self as jīva makes the Sixth, the Fifth and the Sixth being thus reflected from the Not-Self and the Self ; and when to these is added the reflexion from the third, the Relation, the Seven are completed. These numbers carefully pondered, are the key to the Universe (A. B.).

A primarily stands for *Ā t m ā*, the Self; U for *A n-ā t m ā*, the Not-Self; and M for the *N i ṣ h e ḍ h a*, the Negation which is the relation, the bond, between them.

The successive conjunction and disjunction of the three, A, U, and M, are not real but only apparent; and they *appear* in rotation because of the necessity of *succession* in the *limited* U. Otherwise, from the standpoint of the Whole, there is only a constant simultaneity. This may be illustrated by the coalescence of letter sounds in grammar, though, obviously, no exact illustration of the Whole is possible by a part only. Single words, in grammar, correspond to the A; a sentence consisting of many words, to U; and the relation (*i. e.*, the speaker's intention) in which the words are held together in the sentence, to M.

The vowel A (as is clearly seen in the Samskr̥t alphabet) coalesces with and is present in every other vowel sound and letter, and without it nothing is pronounceable. In order that any sound may manifest, A must combine with it. So is the Self present in everything, and without it no manifestation can take place. Thus interdependent are *jīva* and *ḍe ha*, individual spirit or ego and body. They are each within the other, mutually immanent, as seed and plant.

Because of this conjunction and disjunction in succession, the fact of the order of first and

second, etc., arises. The Self and the Not-Self are first and second and *vice versa*, from the standpoint of the one and the other respectively. But it must be remembered, all along, that there is no real succession, no *paraspara-tva*, no other-and-other-ness in the eternally joined, just as, *e.g.*, there is none in the subordinate but more familiar trinity of substance, attribute and movement.

The coalescence of two things is possible only when and because the 'being' underlying them both is one and the same. If the essence were not common, connection were not possible. *Saṭṭā*, being, is that *vyāpāra*, operation, which goes along with, is favourable to, or is of the nature of, the *dhāraṇā*, the maintenance, of the self, the individuality¹. And, thus, Self and *Samsāra*, the World-process, are the same. The apparently new and different sound formed by the coalescence of two other sounds is not in reality 'other' than those.

¹ *आत्मधारणानुकूलव्यापारः सत्ता* "Being (or rather existence) is self-assertion." Compare Spinoza's statements: Everything, so far as it is in itself, endeavors to persist in its own being (*Ethics*, iii. 6); the endeavor wherewith everything endeavors to persist in its own being is nothing else than the actual essence of the thing itself (iii. 7), etc. Physically, the ex-istence and self-assertion of all things is pseudo-infinite radiation or self-multiplication. See *The Science of Peace*, p. 239 and p. 268.

Every coalescence, relation, conjunction of different things is essentially a denial of their difference. Hence the coalesced sound, AUM, which is the symbol of Brahman, is denial of the Many (as other than and separate or apart from the One) and an assertion of the fact that all is but One and the same. The significance of the *Veda*-text, 'May I become many,' is only this, that the One and the Many are the same. If many plants arise from one seed, and many seeds from one plant, where is the difference between seed and plant? Because they are not different in reality therefore is a combination, a mutual reproduction, of them possible.

The following illustrations may be considered: The past and the future appear as opposed to and different from each other, yet neither of them *is*; only the present *is*, and it implies both the past and the future. Greatness and smallness, again, appear as hopelessly opposed; yet neither is anything in reality; what is great from one standpoint, that same thing is small from another. AUM, the 'indeclinable,' the unperishing, includes all differing things and abolishes all differences¹.

¹ As a first step, the words 'separate' and 'separateness' may be substituted for 'different' and 'difference'. With respect to many things, it is quite obvious that they are inseparable, even though distinguishable, like back and front. Later on, the

In the philosophy of grammar it is pointed out that sandhi, coalescence, is threefold¹ like everything else. Amongst words verbs correspond to U, the Not-Self, and nouns to A, the Self; they are all mutually connected (by the prepositional terminations corresponding to M) endlessly.

‘End’ and ‘Endless,’ again, are the same, for the true Endless is beyond number and time, and what only *appears* to us as endless, in the successive, has always ends in reality which are to be found if properly and sufficiently traced.

further step may be taken that even such difference as is implied in distinguishability is also only ‘hypothetical,’ ‘imaginary,’ ‘illusory,’ etc.

¹ Samskr̥t grammar sub-divides sandhi into three kinds, (i) between vowels, (ii) between consonants, and (iii) prakṛṭi-sandhi, certain transformations of aspirates, etc. In order to understand why there are constant references to grammatical considerations in a metaphysical work, some such consideration as the following has to be borne in mind: “Any attempt to determine the history of word-formation must begin with an extensive survey of the actual processes of creation . . .” (*Harmsworth’s Encyclopedia*, Art: Philology.) Thought, thing and language evolve and ‘proceed’ side by side and the history of any one throws light on the history of the others. See *infra*, Sec. III, chapter XIII., for details as to the Science of Language, generally.

The true endless is Brahman which is described in the Upaniṣhaṭs as 'Truth, Knowledge, and Endlessness,' these three corresponding respectively to A, U, and M, or the Self, the Not-Self, and the Relation between them. The three constitute Brahman only when all of them are taken together. Hence, when it is said that Ātmā is omnipotent, what is really implied is that the potencies of all three are conjoined; and the separate and exclusive mention of Ātmā is intended simply to show that the manifestation of the potencies is possible only in apparent separateness. That Negation, the third factor, is and has a potency is clear from the fact that 'to *not* do,' to refrain from doing, is also a power.

We see thus that because Brahman is tri-une, all the World-process which is within and is identical with Brahman is also triple. The illustrations are endless. We have already seen that *sandhi* or coalescence is triple. Gender is also triple, masculine, feminine and neuter, and each of these again reproduces all the three. Substance, quality and movement make a triplet, one member of which is born from another, though all are simultaneous also.

The meaning of 'Enquiry after Brahman' is nothing else than the wish to know precisely the nature of the three factors that make up the

World-process, Self, Not-Self and the Relation between them.

The procedure of all śhāstṛas, sciences, is, briefly, this: Having known such and such things as separate, in their diversity, let us know them as one, in their unity, in their relations with each other whereby they are bound together and make an organic unity¹.

Thus, the science of ethics teaches that having known dharma, artha, and karma, 'duty, profit, and pleasure,' separately, we have finally to know them as one, as constituting mokṣha, freedom, in their harmonised, balanced and unified observance.

So again, nyāya, the 'leading' of proof, the 'marshalling' of evidence, tells us that pramāṇa, prameya, and saṁśaya, evidence, fact, and doubt, which we treat ordinarily as separate, are synthesised in the prayojana, motive or final aim and object, which, ultimately and essentially and always, is knowledge of Brahman. These four indeed constitute the true inner meaning of the four well-known qualifications of the enquirers after Brahman. (They state in terms of intellect or logic and psychology

¹ Modern writers, like Jevons, in his *Principles of Science*, and Karl Pearson, in *The Grammar of Science*, recognise the same fact, saying that the business of Science is to trace unity in diversity, to sum up details in laws, etc.

what the other four indicate in terms of emotion or ethic. *Samsāya* or doubt corresponds to *vairāgya* or dissatisfaction with the world; *prameya* or fact with *viveka* or discrimination between the real and the unreal; *pramāṇa* or evidence to *śama*, etc., the means of ascertainment, and *prayojana* is clearly *mumukṣhā*, longing for liberation). Another triplet, subordinate to and summed up in the *prayōjana*, is that of *kriyā*, *kāraṇa*, and *karṭā*, effect, cause, and the efficient actor. (*Nyāya*, the science of 'conducting' thought justly.)

These last three again correspond to *Jīva*, *Brahman* and *Māyā* (in the *vedānta*, the 'final knowledge'). *Māyā* is *Samsāra*, the World-process, the Not-Self; *Jīva* is the *Aṭmā*, the Self; and *Brahman*, from one standpoint, corresponds to the Negation, the relation between them, regarded as including both the related factors. (*Vedānta*, the science of the 'final knowledge'.)

Other instances may be mentioned :

Chitta, the mind; *vṛtti*, its modifications; and *nirodha*, their restraint, control or inhibition; are all summed up in *yoga*, the 'junction, mergence, union' of knower and known in and through *jñāna*, knowledge. (*Yoga*, the science of 'combination'.)

Sāṅkhya, the 'Numberless,' is the summation of the triplet of *Prakṛti*, Infinite nature,

Puruṣha, Spirit or Ego, and Brahman, the Absolute, the Numberless, the beyond number. (*Sāṅkhya*, the science of 'enumeration'.)

Mīmāṃsā, 'repeated examination within the mind,' synthesises the triplet of kartavya, akartavya and bhinna, the to be done, the to be avoided, and the different or separate from both; and, again, the triplet of svārtha, parārtha and paramārtha, 'self-interest' or egoism, 'other-interest' or altruism, and 'supreme-interest' or universalism, duty pure and simple. (*Mīmāṃsā*, the science of 'interpreting the intention'.)

Vaiśeṣika, 'specification,' deals with the triplets of dravya, guṇa, and karma, substance, attribute and movement, and of sāmānya, genus or universality, viśeṣa, species, speciality, individuality, particularity or rather singularity, and samavaya, juxtaposition, or the subsumption, immanence, relation and inseparable connexion, of one under or in or with another. (*Vaiśeṣika*, the science of 'specification and classification'.)

Such are some of the most important triplets of the World-process which reproduce and reflect the nature of Brahman, and form the subject-matter of the six *Āṅgas* and *Upaṅgās*, 'limbs' and 'subsidiary limbs,' of the *Veda*, the sciences whereby the infinite nature of Brahman may be comprehended.

SECTION II.

Yoga-Prakāra-Prakaraṇa.

THE METHODS OF THE CONJUNCTION OF THE THREE FACTORS.

The importance and the consequences of the knowledge of Brahman as tri-une.—Further illustrations of the triplicity.—Cognition, action and desire as corresponding to A, U and M.—The multifarious triplets arising under desire and action.

The manifestation of the trinity which constitutes the one or, rather, the numberless Brahman, is Samsāra, the World-process, so that we may say that Samsāra in its totality is Brahman; and the endless combinations and permutations of the three factors make the many ways or methods or laws of this manifestation or 'becoming' which is Samsāra.

These many methods have to be studied by every one who would understand the real significance of Brahman. And they have to be studied in the World-process itself, that is to say, by observation of it all around us. For there is no greater teacher than this World-process itself, and study thereof is the real and genuine *tapas* and *yoga*, austerity and self-development. To know *all* is to know Brahman. It should be borne in mind however that to know all, in the

totality of its endless detail, is not achievable in any limited space and time by any being limited by space and time. Only the *All* itself knows the *all*. Various sciences study only various aspects of Brahman or Samsāra. What is needed and is possible is that the student should secure a general idea of the whole and of its unity. Such knowledge is the source of that deliberate and true altruism which arises necessarily in the jīva which has attained to nivr̥tti and universalism.¹

Altruism and egoism, the gain of one and the loss of another, renunciation by one and acceptance by another, sin and merit, heaven and hell, destruction and protection, all have their own separate and proper places in the World-process, from the standpoint of the limited, though they all are as one from the standpoint of the One Self.

It is only when the jīva realises the illusoriness of the separateness of jīvas from each other, the separateness of many selves, which is the sole basis of the distinctions of sin and merit, that it becomes capable of the performance of desireless action, work without attachment, duty

¹ 'Universalism' is here used to indicate the position of one who has transcended both egoism and altruism, who knows no longer 'myself and others,' but sees himself and others as one with the Universal Self. (A. B.)

for the sake of duty, and so becomes a participant in *mukṭi*, liberation, the true deliverance of the soul, which is deliverance from selfish desire and so from all possibility of suffering.

The *jīva* that has realised this underlying unity of the diverse world transcends and transmutates selfishness and unselfishness into duty ; the elations of health and the depressions of disease into the steady equability of perfect life; regularity and irregularity into living and flexible routine; deprivations and gifts into the justice that is ever adjusting the balance of all things by means of punishments and rewards. Such a *jīva* realises the synthesis, the unity, of the four objects of life, *viz.*, profit, pleasure, duty and deliverance. It knows that the opposites that make up the world are ever changing place, poison becoming medicine and medicine poison, with changing circumstances.

But before it can realise this unity it must have studied the diversity which is pervaded by that unity. The very transcendence, by *Brahman*, of time and number, implies time and number. The Beginningless and Endless is made up of the countless and incessant beginnings and endings, of the periods and cycles, which the world uses as the measures of time.

Here, again, we may notice the ever-present triplicity of the world. The beginning is the A, the end is the U, and the intervening middle

period of maintenance or preservation is the connecting M. So the present is the A, the future U, and the past M.¹ The unfinished beginning is the present; the remainder after its completion is the future; the remainder after the end is the past. The present includes both past and future. Divisor, dividend and quotient; multiplier, multiplicand and multiple; addition corresponding to growth or creation or origin, multiplication to preservation, and (subtraction or) division to destruction and end—all these are instances of the same triplicity.² The

¹The curious transpositions of the letters of the *Praṇava*, as here given, seem to be of the nature of the transpositions often used in ancient works, to indicate certain successions within certain periods. Thus, while A U M would indicate the World-process ideally, the two factors having prominence, and the relation between them coming last, as being hidden, the anagram A M U would indicate the world really, the relation taking its actual place as between the Self and the Not-Self; and M A U would indicate by the necessary emphasis on the vowel sound and the equally necessary swift passage from the M, the relation of the past to the present, and the gliding passage from present to future. (A. B.) See *The Science of Peace*, p. 139.

²The book does not explain why subtraction is omitted. From one point of view it might appear that addition, including multiplication, would corres-

singular, the dual, the plural, 1, 2, and 3, also respectively correspond to A, U, and M. The cause and the summation and the tri-unity of them all is the cipher. By a process of reflexion of the trinity in each of these, each of the three primal numbers becomes triple, and hence we have the nine figures, for this world-system, the tenth being 'no-thing,' nothing new or further, and so made up with the zero.

The above observations shew the intimate connexion between number and time, the full application of which is found in the science of *jyotiṣha*, or 'the lights (of heaven),' i.e., (*Jyotiṣha*) astrology and astronomy, with its elaborate measurements and calculations, and considerations of good and evil times and proper and improper seasons; for, as there are right and wrong seasons for agricultural processes, so are there for all works and undertakings whatsoever.

Time corresponds to the Self, number to the Not-Self, and the *saṅkhyā*, the calculus of the numberless infinite, (or rather in-de-finite or pseudo-in-finite) to the relation between them.

There are three principal *grahas*, planets, and nine altogether (for our world-system, in correspondence with the nine numbers).

pond with creation; subtraction, including division, with destruction; and the 'rule of three', connecting the two, with preservation.

Nāstika, āstika, and māstika, atheism, theism, and polytheism, literally the believer that (a thing, a being, a deity) is not, the believer that it is, and the believer that the negation (or the negated many) is—this is another important trinity.

In considering these triplets we observe how the multitudinous Samsāra originates and is within the non-separate Brahman; how rest and effort, undertaking and completion, alternate within the Full and Changeless. All 'becoming' is effort, is accompanied with the sense of individual initiative and effort; and, at the same time, all 'becoming' is necessary also. As all the successive progression of inference is based on and included in direct cognition or intuition, so the corresponding procession of Samsāra, the before and after of which is connected together in our consciousness by inference after being separately gathered by direct cognition,¹ is based on and included in the direct cognition or intuition or single and partless consciousness of all the three factors of the primal trinity, 'I—Not-I—Not'. The *feeling of effort* is a *necessary error*. Truth and error are relative and both necessary, being both summed up in illusion.

¹ The latest way of describing this 'separate gathering' is that 'each presentation is new and unique.' (*Vide, Mind*, for January, 1906, p. 53).

Pratyakṣha, 'vision,' direct cognition, intuition, presentation, corresponds to the present; *anumeya*, what has to be inferred, to the past; and *prayojana*, the motive of the inference, to the future. Again, from the standpoint of *Ātma* *pratyakṣha* corresponds to *A*; *nirṇaya*, judgment or decisive conclusion or deductive inference, to *U*; and *anumāna*, reasoning or inductive inference, to *M*. But, from the standpoint of *Samsāra*, *nirṇaya* corresponds to *A*, and *pratyakṣha* to *U*.

All the six *padārthas*, 'meanings of words', 'objects aimed at, or intended to be reached or expressed', things or categories, of the *Vaiśeṣika* system, and the sixteen of the *Nyāya* system (for which definite numbers there are definite reasons) are respectively reducible to (i) *bhāva*, being (corresponding to matter and *saṭ*) and (ii) *pratyakṣha*, direct knowledge (corresponding to *chit* and spirit or consciousness), which, again, are in and are *Brahman* which is and wherein is (iii) *bhavana*, 'becoming' (connected with effort and desire and *ānanda* or bliss).¹

¹ Further details regarding the various systems of philosophy and the different 'points of view' of these *darśhanas* (*Darśhanas*), will be found later on in Section III. Ch. XIV., *et seq.*

As said before, all 'becoming' is necessary, from the standpoint of the All, and yet every particular 'becoming' invariably manifests by means of desire. This desire, self-determination, individual initiation of actions, is all illusory, technically, though an indubitable fact also at the same time.

Ātmanā, and Saṁsāra, Self and the World-process or the Not-Self, are determinant of, are so to say causes or motives for or to, each other, and are always in inseparable connexion with each other. And hence jīva, individualised self, soul, or spirit, and deha or body are interdependent and mutually relative, even as north and south and east and west are. 'This is thine,' 'this is mine,' means temporary connexion. 'Thou art I,' is permanent connexion.

The inner identity of past, present, and future is the real cause of the conviction that what *was*, *is*, and also *will be*. So too are possible and impossible identified (in the conditional). Bheḍa or separateness, abheḍa or non-separateness, and anabheḍa or non-in-separateness; aṣṭi, nāṣṭi, anāṣṭi, is, is not, not is; abodha, sambodha, vibodha, ignorance, knowledge, special knowledge, etc.; are other such triplets.

Some idea of the general principle of tri-unity and the method of development and multiplication by mutual reflexion having been supplied as above, a few special considerations as regards

ichchhā or desire and jñāna or cognition may be entered upon, the discussion of kriyā or action being left over for the next section.

While the whole is always full and complete, each part is not such. We thus have an absence of fullness, an imperfection, noticeable in any and every part, howsoever we take it, of Samsāra. At the same time, every jīva, being identical with the Self, is identical with the whole, and contains all within itself. The result of this double identity of the jīva, with the whole (Self) on the one hand and with a part (of the Not-Self) on the other, is, that there is necessarily and inevitably an incessant progression in each part towards the fullness of the Whole. And, as said before, the constant co-efficient of this necessary evolution is desire.

The main significance of all blessings, etc., is to be found in this fact of inevitable progress. He who blesses knows that the desire having arisen, in the person blessed, for a certain higher condition, that condition *will* evolve in him in the course of time, and *declares* this fact in his blessing.

By mutual reflexions, cognition, desire and action become triple, each of them, in their turn.

Ichchhā,¹ desire, is subdivided into kāmanā kāṅkṣhā, and āshā; and cognition into

¹ Etymologically it would be better to translate ichchhā by 'wish,' both words being derived from

saṅkalpa, vikalpa, and adhyavasāya.¹ It must be borne in mind all along, however, that all these are sub-divisions of one and the

the same root iṣh. But usage in western treatises on psychology has made 'desire' technically the more appropriate. As a general rule, it is difficult to assign exact English equivalents to Samskr̥t philosophical terms. The different sub-races which have built up the technical terminologies of philosophy in the different languages, have looked at the things, the same things, from different standpoints, and so caught and embodied into words *different aspects* of these things. The equivalents used in this translation are therefore only suggestive. Uniformity in their use will not be possible to observe always, though, of course, it will be striven after. It is well-known that definiteness of language grows hand-in-hand with definiteness of ideas, and as the one is often a very lengthy process, so must be the other.

¹ All these terms are dealt with more fully, later on, in the text, with the exception of the last, adhyavasāya, in place of which anukalpa is substituted as the third of the triplet. The psychological distinctions made here between the four aspects of desire are not to be found at all in current Samskr̥t works; nor is anukalpa to be met with there in the sense assigned to it here. Saṅkalpa, vikalpa, and adhyavasāya are current, however, in the sense, generally speaking, of plan or resolve, doubt or alternative, and final determination, respectively.

same consciousness, and are, hence, identical in essence.

K ā m a n ā corresponds to a s t i - t v a, existence, is-ness; it is the desire to *ex-ist*, to manifest outwards. N i ṣ h k ā m y a,¹ on the other hand, corresponds to s a t t ā, being, inwardness, 'absence of desire (to manifest outwards).'² K ā m a n ā appears as s y ā t, s y ā h, s y ā m, 'may he be, may thou be, may I be (or become such and such).' The three correspond to M, U, and A respectively. But from another standpoint, the root a s, to exist, (which is the root of both s a t t ā and a s t i - t v a) includes all the three forms, s y ā t, s y ā h and s y ā m, of k ā m a n ā; and in this root, the letter a corresponds to the Ā t m ā; and the letter s to the b a h u, the Many, the world or U; while M or the Negation is represented by s a t t ā, being, which is the underlying meaning of the root a s and the connecting link between the Ā t m ā and the Many. The primal wish, as embodied in the *Veḍa*-text, is therefore b a h u - s y ā m, 'May I become many.'

¹ Modern Samskr̥t would say n a i ṣ h k ā m y a. •

² The distinction implied between a s t i - t v a and s a t t ā is worth noting. In current Samskr̥t philosophical literature, Prashastapāḍa's *Vaisheshika-Bhāṣhya* assigns a s t i - t v a to all six padārthas and s a t t ā to only the first three. Available commentaries and modern pandits do not explain the difference, at least not satisfactorily.

In the general sense, *kāmanā* may be said to correspond to the Self, to be the desire for self-manifestation, self-realisation, self-assertion. And if it is thus looked at, we see that all the other sub-divisions fall within it.

Kāṅkṣhā may be distinguished from *kāmanā* thus: *kāmanā* is the mere naked wish for self-realisation; *kāṅkṣhā* is the wish for such *by means of* the many. The reference to the many, the desire to manifest in and through the many, is the speciality of *kāṅkṣhā*. In *kāṅkṣhā* is present the striving for the fruit; *kāṅkṣhā* is only for the sake of fruit. In what way, by what means, can this object be gained—such wishful cogitation is the work of *kāṅkṣhā*. That *śakti*, energy or power, that self-effort, the form or nature of which is the becoming, the coming about, or the bringing about, of the fruit or the wished-for result, the gradual securing of the object—that is *kāṅkṣhā*, (conation?).

Icchhā, wish, desire, is the suggestor of the method. May it be, it may be, that this result ‘becomes’ or is brought about by this means—such is its form. (“The wish is father to the thought,” “Necessity is the mother of invention”.)

Āshā, hope, refers to the future—because such an object is being secured now by such means, and has also been gained similarly in the

past, therefore it *will be* gained in the same way in the future also.

The cognition corresponding to āshā is sañkalpa. Its form is: I shall do this, or let me do this, or I am doing this, with the knowledge and in the belief that thereby such a result will be obtained. Āshā and sañkalpa are related as effect and cause¹. The former is of the form of or corresponds to the *Nyāya*-category of nirṇaya, decision, deduction; and the latter to that of siḍḍhānta, established and settled conclusion.²

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¹It may at first sight seem that the reverse is the case, that hope is the cause and resolve the effect, that we resolve to do something only when we hope that it will produce the wished-for result. This would be so if the words hope and resolve are taken in their exact English sense. But in that sense they are not exact equivalents of āshā and sañkalpa. The latter should be taken here more as "plan" than resolve; then it becomes easier to see that we hope for a certain occurrence in *consequence* of our plan; without the plan for the realising of it we would not have the hope of the occurrence.

²The endless interlacing of these moods of consciousness is at first sight very perplexing, but as the reader proceeds further with the work and realises how this endlessness of detail within detail is the normal condition of all things everywhere, he will become reconciled to this particular perplexity also.

In other words, May I be—is *kāmanā*; I am—is *kāṅkṣhā*; I was—is *ichchhā*; I shall be—is *āshā*.

Vikalpa, doubt, alternative, is the negator, the opposite of *saṅkalpa*. Doubt, uncertainty,

As a general rule, it may be said, for psychological purposes, that the order of succession is, first cognition, then desire, then action; and that the sub-divisions of these follow the same order. Thus if cognition is C and sub-division of it c, and so with the others, then taking only one set of sub-divisions, the order of succession would probably be; Cc, Dc, Ac, Cd, Dd, Ad, Ca, Da, Aa, or Cc, Cd, Ca, Dc, Dd, Da, Ac, Ad, Aa, or all three at a time (in three different degrees), and so on. Looked at thus, the fact appears to be that where we say that the wish is father to the thought which results in such and such an action, or that necessity is the mother of invention, the 'thought' or 'invention' is not a cognition following after a desire, but is either the Ca, or the Ac, a *plan of action*, a mixture of cognitive and active elements, which follows Dd and precedes Aa. In the realm of the successive, in actual daily life, it does not seem easy to find a case of simple and specific cognition, Cc, coming after and arising out of a simple and specific desire, Dd. The latter *pre-supposes* the former; the former entails the latter.

The growth of these complications, the opening up of these ramifications, in the individual, under the stress of the outward-going desire for the

attaches to everything; I am or I was or I shall be so and so—all this has an element of uncertainty about it; we are never positively sure even of the accuracy of our present experience, less so of our recollection of the past, much less

revivification of 'stale pleasure,' or the enhancement and elaboration of pleasure by complex arrangements of objects of pleasure, is the growth of memory, intelligence, etc. ; it is evolution generally. Compare the simple satisfaction of the primal appetites for food and sex in the animal with the complex satisfaction of those *same* appetites by civilised man with the help and subservience of all the apparatus of modern civilisation. After the middle stage, that of satiation and self-consciousness, there sets in the inward-turning of the desire, the negation of these things ; and the *apparent* superiority of the *nivṛtṭi*-condition as such consists in *remembering* the experiences of *pravṛtṭi* and yet deliberately rejecting them, 'rising superior' to them. At the stage of self-consciousness (not all-self-consciousness) *karma* and punishment become substituted for cause and effect—a change of *names* only. See Section VI, *infra*. The rotation of the three aspects of consciousness is also repeatedly touched upon in the work, and the difficulty is solved by distinguishing between 'generic' and 'specific' forms of each. For concrete illustrations of *Cc*, etc., we may tentatively take the following:—

(Cc) Cognition-proper, definite knowledge, *adhyavasāya*, 'This is a fruit' 'I see this fruit.'

of our future. This is due to the presence of the Negation everywhere.

The potential syām, 'may I be,' as Time, includes all the other three, am, was, and will be, or present, past and future.

These four divisions of desire occur in every possible variation of krama, order; but the natural one is kāmanā, ichchhā, kāṅkṣhā. and āshā. The others are the opposite of

(Cd) Cognition-desire, vikalpa, doubt, 'Is it worth tasting?' 'It seems to be nice?' 'May I have it?' 'It is probably good to eat?'

(Ca) Cognition-action, resolution, determination, saṅkalpa, 'I ought to be and am taking it.'

(Dc) Desire-cognition, kāṅkṣhā, 'It seems to be obtainable,' 'It looks as if I could get it.'

(Dd) Desire-proper, kāmanā, the longing for it, 'I want the fruit'.

(Da) Desire-action, āshā, hope, expectation and volition, 'I expect I will secure it as soon as I try, and I will take it'.

(Ac) Action-cognition, vyavasāya, preparation, determination, initiation of effort 'the co-ordination, orientation or direction of the muscles and their movements'.

(Ad) Action-desire, yaṭṇa or kṛṭi, effort, endeavor, conation, 'the inception of movement in the muscles'.

(Aa) Action-proper, kriyā or karma, 'the seizing of the fruit'.

krama; they are **vyaṭi-krama** or disorder, which also is necessary however.

The endlessness of these four, as of the **Ātmā**, is illustrated in all the multitudinous activities and relations of the world.

Pleasure and pain lie in the fulfilment and the defeat, respectively, of **kāṅkṣhā**. Both are summed up in **ānanda**. Pleasure corresponds

In the illustrative expressions belonging to the first six sub-divisions, the use of the word I, 'I see,' 'I want,' etc., should not be understood to indicate apperception, self-consciousness; it has been used only for concreteness and brevity.

The above are only samples of an endless complexity. Precise tabulation is nearly impossible, at least for some time to come. Only the general outlines of the 'scheme' are intended to be indicated. Such facts and experiences as are noted by modern psychologists (*Vide, e.g.,* W. James' *Principles of Psychology*, II, xxvi, pp. 522 *et-seq.*) under the names of 'kinesthetic sensation,' 'feeling of innervation,' 'fiat,' 'ideo-motor action,' 'muscular sense,' 'sensations of the movements of the joints of the body,' 'sensations of weight,' 'of temperature, external or internal,' 'of chills of fear at the heart,' 'heat of anger in the blood,' 'bowels of compassion,' 'tinglings, thrills, creeps, horripilation,' etc., should all be capable of reduction into such a scheme of sub-divisions proceeding by triplets.

to *kāṅkṣhā* and A; pain to *ichchhā*¹ and U; and *ānanda*, bliss, peace, the disappearance of both pleasure and pain, to *kāmanā* and M. The inner identity of nature of pleasure and pain, the fact that both are rooted in *ānanda* and both caused by *kāmanā*, may be realised through the fact that they are always changing place; what is pleasant at one time becomes painful at another, and what is painful at one time becomes pleasant at another.

All these three, pleasure, pain, and peace, are summed up in the AUM, the true name of Brahman, which, because of this fact, is always used at the beginning, the middle, and the end of all mantras or sacred chants.

The other words, *yaṭ*, 'which,' *ṭaṭ*, 'that,' etc., used to denote Brahman, as, for instance, in the *Gāyatrī*, are so used only to indicate its tri-unity and all-inclusiveness (which is the characteristic of relative pronouns).

Sub-divisions appear again under each of the four, *kāmanā*, etc., thus: *āshā*, *ḍurāśa*, *nirāśhā*, etc. *Nirāśhā*, absence of hope, sums up *āshā*, good hope, and *ḍurāśhā*,

¹ Obviously, *ichchhā*, here, corresponds to U only when treated as a sub-variety, distinguishable from the other sub-divisions and aspects, *kāmanā*, etc., of desire in general. When desire in general is spoken of, side by side with cognition or action, then it is made to correspond with M.

bad, evil, gloomy or dark, hope or despair. Hence the counsel that action should be performed with *nirāṣhā*, with no-hope, without hope of fruit or reward.

Saṅkalpa, planning, resolving, and *vikalpa*, hesitating, vacillating, alternating between two different courses, 'halting between two opinions,'—the two together being known as *vikāra*, transformation or change—appear in connexion with *āshā* (and *durāshā*?). The third, which connects together these two, is *anukalpa*. 'I do this, I shall do this'—such is the form of *saṅkalpa*. But in view of the arising of new or other possible causes, new or other possible circumstances, second thoughts arise, 'this should not be done by so-and-so, or I shall not do this (*vikalpa*), but, in place of this, this other is the proper thing to do (*anukalpa*).' Because all time and all causes and all effects are not within any one individual's cognisance and power, therefore nothing can be said by any individual to be positively certain; and, consequently, an alternative resolution is also always kept before itself by a thoughtful *jīva*, 'if so-and-so happens, I shall not do this but do this other thing instead'—this is *anukalpa*.

In the *Veḍa*-logion *Aham-bahu-syām*, 'I-many-may-become,' *Aham* corresponds to *saṅkalpa*, *bahu* to *vikalpa*, and *syām*

to *anukalpa*. And as the three factors of the logion are one, so these three are also one.

Other correspondences, from different stand-points may be noted :—

A—*saṅkalpa*—*kāmanā*—*syām*

U—*vikalpa*—*ichchhā*—*bahu*

M—*anukalpa*—*kāṅkṣhā*—*asmi*

or

kāmanā—*kāṅkṣha*

kāṅkṣha—*ichchhā*

ichchhā—*kāmanā*

Abandoning *saṅkalpa* and *vikalpa*, the *jīva* becomes a *yōgi* and dwells constantly in *anukalpa*¹. The *yōgi* is he who 'joins together all things into one,' who knows that all experiences come to all. The *mukṭa* is he who is 'delivered' from the belief, the heresy, of the separateness of the Three. The *brāhmaṇa* is he who knows *Brahman*.

The process of *saṅkalpa-vikalpa-anukalpa* makes up *vichāra*, thought, thinking, mind-*'moving,'* mind-*'revolving.'* The power that decides, that brings out *nishchaya*,

¹ 'Living in the present,' 'presence of mind,' 'enough for the day is the evil thereof,' 'whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might,' 'resourcefulness,' 'readiness for all happenings,' 'power of adjustment,' 'adaptability'—are the words which help to bring out the significance of the condition, from the empirical standpoint.

certainly, 'final choice,' from amidst these processes, is *buḍḍhi*, intelligence, intellect, or reason. *Vichāra* is the work or action of *buḍḍhi*, (*aḍhyavasāya* or *nishchaya* being the fruit of that action). *Sanḍeha*, doubt, corresponds to *Samsāra*, the World-process, manyness, and to *vikalpa* or vacillation. *Nishchaya*, certainty, decision or determination, corresponds to *Ātmanā*, the Self and the One, and to *saṅkalpa* or resolve. *Siddhānta* or 'established truth' gathers and sums up both.

Vichāra, from another standpoint, subdivides into *asmṛti*, *vismṛti* and *anusmṛti*, non-remembrance, forgetting,¹ and expectation, respectively. *Smṛti*, recollection, is the significance or characterising essence of them all, that is to say, the nature of recollection defines the nature of the other mental processes.

The power or faculty of recollection is *buḍḍhi*, for only the certain, the decided and determined, facts are remembered. That which has been ascertained in all ways, as 'this is thus only'—the

¹ *Vismṛti* seems to be more like 'erroneous recollection' than mere negative 'forgetting' which would be only non-remembrance already separately mentioned. Also, from one standpoint, it would seem that *smṛti*, *asmṛti*, and *vismṛti* are the trinity of which the summation is *anusmṛti*.

holding of such an ascertained fact in the mind through all time, with the belief that other than it is not possible—such is the form or nature of memory. That which is uncertain and unnecessary¹ with respect to oneself, ‘was it, is it, or could it be thus or not thus?’—such is the form of *vismṛti*, forgetting. The cause of *vismṛti* is *bhrama*, ‘wandering,’ inattention, delusion. The ‘power’ or faculty of *vismṛti* is therefore *abuḍḍhi*, non-intelligence, the nature of which is uncertainty. *Anusmṛti* comes out, arises by, or by means of a combination of *smṛti* and *vismṛti*. That which occurred in the past has been forgotten; that which belongs to to-day, the present time, is being remembered; what has occurred and occurs in past and present time will also occur in the future;—this set of facts and beliefs, permeated with hope, is the form or nature of *anusmṛti*, ‘after-memory,’ expectation. The power or faculty of *anusmṛti* is *sudhī*, the good or discerning intellect. *Vismṛti* refers to past time, *smṛti* to present, and *anusmṛti* to future.

¹ The word ‘unnecessary’ seems to have a retrospective significance here; it is only what is not felt to be necessary and does not arouse interest and so arrest attention which is not strongly and accurately impressed on the memory.

Other correspondences may be noted as follows:—

A—Aṭmā—smṛti—pratyakṣha—saṅkalpa—
kāṅkṣhā.

U—Samsāra—anusmṛti—nirṇaya—anukalpa—
āshā.

M—Niṣheḍha—vismṛti—anumāna—vikalpa—
ichchhā.

V i c h ā r a, thinking, is the s a ṭ ṭ ā, the being, of all three, and j ñ ā n a, cognition, knowledge, underlies and unifies them all.

Memory and expectation are, it is obvious, mutually dependent. A n u s m ṛ t i, (as association of ideas) expectation, even etymologically means 'that which follows memory,' s m a r a ṇ a m a n u. Memory too, conversely, depends on expectation (through the desire for results in the future which stimulates and strengthens memory; which, indeed, justifies the existence of memory and makes it useful and therefore possible and necessary). Some other aspects of this side of consciousness may be noted. S m a r a ṇ a, recollection, refers to all-time (and belongs 'to the ideal'). D h ā r a ṇ ā, holding, holding in consciousness, is in essence the same thing as s m a r a ṇ a¹, (but belongs to the 'real').

¹ As with 'wish' and, 'desire,' so with 'memory' and 'recollection' or 'remembrance,' the meaning seems to have changed in the course of the development of the words from the roots. The root of

They may be distinguished thus : S m a r a ṇ a is the means ; ḍ h ā r a ṇ ā is the accomplishment. S m a r a ṇ a is the action ; ḍ h ā r a ṇ ā is the result thereof. ' That which is seen or heard or cognised *now* (in this particular time), is always (in all-time)' —such is the work of ḍ h ā r a ṇ ā. Because there is no real difference between *now* and *then* (both being aspects of the partless 'emptiness' called time) therefore all is everywhere and always.

'memory' and 'smṛti' is possibly the same, but smṛti now has more the significance of recollection or act of remembrance from time to time, while ḍ h ṛ ti implies persistency, or tenacity of holding in consciousness, the *power* of memory, or retentiveness. So 'desire' is now used with an implication of greater permanence and depth than 'wish,' and therefore is for practical purposes a better equivalent to i c h c h h ā than 'wish,' notwithstanding that the latter seems to be derived from the same root i ṣ h as i c h c h h ā. Another fact worth noting is that though some of the explanations given, in the text above, of k ā m a ṇ ā, seem to mark it as the more comprehensive word and the fitter to take the middle place in the triple sub-division of consciousness recognised in this work, yet as a fact i c h c h h ā is given this place between j ñ ā n a and k r i y ā throughout the remaining sections of the book. Other allied meanings of ḍ h ṛ ti are endurance, patience, self-possession, non-self-forgetfulness, etc.

Thus there is no real difference between *ḍhṛṭi* and *smṛṭi*, memory and recollection. *Sma-
raṇa* is a form of cognition; the safe 'placing'
away of that which is obtained thereby is
ḍhṛṭi.

The knowledge that is or lies between *Ātmanā* and *Samśāra*, that is to say, the knowledge of *Samśāra* from the point of view of *Ātmanā* and the knowledge of the Self from the point of view of the world—this is *smṛṭi* or *smaṛaṇa*. 'The world is'—this is the knowledge (of the world) by the Self. 'The *Ātmanā* is'—this is the knowledge of (the Self by) the world. The binding together of the two in the way or by the means of *is*—is *smṛṭi*. The connectedness, the conjointness, the condition of their being merged together, is *ḍhṛṭi*. Thus it is said that the world is *held* within the Self, and the Self *held* within the world. That the world never exists apart from the Self, and the Self never apart from the world—this is the nature (and consequence) of *ḍhṛṭi*. The standing together, the conjunctional condition, of things which have one common being, which are not in reality separate, but appear as separate—this is memory. Its nature, its form, is that of the mutual dependence and implication of all things whatsoever; everything contains all things whatsoever. Even in separateness, the two, the

Self and the Not-Self, are connected as 'other-and-other,' 'each-other,' *para para*; this reference to 'the other' exists inviolably and necessarily in each. Therefore the combination of the two (or, rather, the holding of the whole Not-Self in the Self by the Self) is memory (*i.e.*, is the fact or the principle which manifests in the consciousness of the individual *jīva* as memory).

Cognition, knowledge, is possible only by means of the senses, (that is to say, only when the Self has become identified with a limited organism), and only when two things (subject and object on the one hand, and the two factors of opposed pairs, *dvandva*, both factors falling under the term 'object,' on the other hand) come together¹.

The *succession* (of the moods, conscious states, psychoses) of the *jīva* is endless time. It is also

¹ This is a statement, in its fullest significance, of what is called in modern philosophy, the relativity of knowledge; also of the view that all knowledge begins in and is concerned about sensations in the proper sense of the term, *excepting* one knowledge, *viz.*, Self-Consciousness which includes all knowledge however. The debate about innate ideas, or the distinction between the 'matter' and the 'form' of knowledge, can never arise or is past for the student of this metaphysic.

the significance and constitution of memory, which too has therefore an endless stretch and extension. This endlessness, pseudo-infinity, is observable everywhere in the world, in time, action, speech, knowledge, etc. Each moment of time and each item of the others is connected with an endless series of other similar moments and items. We may notice memory within memory, and memory within that again, and so on, *ad infinitum*. We remember that we remembered; we hold that we held (such and such a view). We learn from the *Vedas* that there are *smṛti-sṛṣhti* and *mānasa-sṛṣhti*, 'worlds of memory' and 'worlds of mind or thought (or thought-forms)'. *Mānasa-vicāra*, 'mental-travel,' thinking, thought, is the thread of and through 'forgetfulness, memory, and expectation,' corresponding respectively to *vikalpa*, *saṅkalpa*, and *anukalpa*, doubt, resolve, and alternative resource.

We may consider a few illustrations: In the logion, *Aham-bahu-syām*, 'I—many—may-become,' the I is the *Aṭmā*, and the many is the *Samsāra*. The many in the I is memory. The I is mere oneness, and the memory of the many is necessary to it because of its relativity to the many. Without the memory of the many, the expression, 'may I become,' were impossible.

That such memory is existent everywhere (as sub-consciousness)¹ appears from the fact that this logion is embodied and illustrated in the life, for instance, of the vegetable kingdom also ; the one plant becomes the many seeds.

Memory embodies all procession, all progress and evolution. Taking shape as an ideal to strive after, working in the way of the constant contemplation of the lives of the Great Ones, it leads on the small to become like the great. Indeed, memory may be said to be identical with the whole of the World-process itself, being immanent in the conjunction of Self and Not-Self, Ātma and Samsāra, Aham and Bahu.

We may distinguish between jñāna and smarāṇa or cognition and memory by saying that the second stage or condition or transformation

¹ The preceding remarks about the distinctions between smṛti and dhṛti, etc., may have appeared obscure. Their meaning will become plain as soon as the significance of the Logion, I—not-I—Not, is realised. And when the nature of *memory* is understood in the light of this Logion, then the theoretical difficulties which now perplex psycho-physicists and those engaged in psychical research as to how to explain sub- or supra- or subliminal or supraliminal consciousness and as to whether individuals are in touch with cosmic consciousness or not, etc., will vanish. See *The Science of Peace*, pp. 287-298.

of cognition is memory; jñāna precedes, smaraṇa succeeds. Jñāna belongs to all time, is beginningless and endless, in as much as it belongs to the present which includes past and future; while memory belongs to the successive, to succession, to the beginnings and endings in time. Jñāna as a whole belongs to all-time, *i.e.*, to time as a whole; but its parts equally necessarily belong to the parts and successions of time. These parts of jñāna or knowledge are named smṛti, recollection.¹

Because memory is inseparably connected with time in its parts, *i.e.*, with beginnings and endings, therefore are there breaks of memory from birth

¹ The modern reader who has followed the development, in recent times, of the doctrine of the *continuum* of consciousness, in such works as James Ward's *Psychology*, Stout's *Manual of Psychology*, James' *Principles of Psychology*, etc., will find it easier to grasp the sense of the compressed text here, and will, reciprocally, find a most illuminating light thrown on the problems and the details left unexplained, at the last crux, in those works, by the metaphysic of psychology as expounded here. James especially has the characteristic of leading, and most brilliantly, right up to and then abruptly stopping short of that last step, which would complete the 'circle' of knowledge, and put, on the whole discussion and thought, the 'new' complexion of an achieved unification under which all things appear 'renewed'.

to birth ordinarily. The exceptions that occur from time to time, the cases of *yogīs*, the cases of *ḍi v y a-ḍ ṛ ṣ h t i*, 'divine sight' or clairvoyance, of *ṭ r i-k ā l a-j ñ a-ṭ ā*, 'knowledge of the three times, past, present, and future,' mean that what to the ordinary person would be a *series* of distinct periods, separate parts of time, and of memories, has become reduced into one time, one present, and one *pratyakṣha*, direct and immediate cognition or intuition, to the seer. Ordinarily the 'present' signifies the time extending from the beginning to the finishing of some one act, one condition, one life-time; hence memory commonly ranges within one life-time only. Such succession, beginning and ending in time, past, present and future, is the only way, the *sine qua non*, of manifestation, of existence and non-existence. Apart from it there is neither 'is,' nor 'is not,' nor 'not is'. As said before *smṛti* refers to the present, *vi sm ṛ ti* to the past and *a n u s m ṛ ti* to the future.

Each one of this triplet of past, present and future is repeated endlessly within each of the others. Such pseudo-infinity is observable everywhere in the World-process, as noted before. We have succession within succession, time within time, form within form, work within work, alphabet within alphabet, name within name, universe within universe, all within all, and *Brahman* within *Brahman*.

But while this pseudo-infinity of details within details corresponds to the infinity of the Universal Consciousness, each individual consciousness deals with and comprehends only a limited portion of the details. Hence we have the fact that what is called the omniscience of Brahmā and other high Gods signifies only that their 'memories' co-extend with vast but always limited cycles and circles of time and space and motion.

Memory is the basis of all reasoning, inference, argument, *anumāna* and *nirṇaya*, induction and deduction. *Praṭyakṣha*, direct cognition, is also used and summed up within it. The more comprehensive the memory, the stronger and more decided the other intellectual processes. Every *jīva* is potentially omniscient¹.

But we cannot say that because the *jīva* possesses omniscience potentially therefore it

¹The difference between *jīva* and *jīva* is due to the difference in the *order* of the events, or experiences. If this order or succession, a mere emptiness, is abolished, only the collective total of experiences remains and 'all' *jīvas* merge into One, and worlds go into *pralaya*. Thus we see that the mere order of the contents of memory is the foundation of separate individuality and is at every moment of our existence that which distinguishes us from one another. (*Yōga-Sūtra*, IV. 14 and *The Science of Peace*, p. 319).

possesses distinct memory through and of all time actually, for the word 'all' is, strictly, transcendental. Ordinarily, it means *the whole of some one series* only, for it is not independent of succession. Hence, memory, forgetting and expectation, appear even in those that are called omniscient. Omniscience, we see then, is also relative and comparative, and means, successively, with reference to the stages of the evolutionary growth of *jīvas*, 'full knowledge of the contents of a yuga, a mahā-yuga, a kalpa, a mahā-kalpa, a manvanṭara, a mahā-manvanṭara, etc'. Hence *yogīs* too cannot be said to possess full comprehension of the complete details of the *transcendental* 'all,' but only of the relative or comparative 'all' included in some one principal cycle.¹

¹ Speaking of *yogīs* and *brāhmaṇas*, etc., as the holders of such knowledge, the author branches off here into a 'metaphysical' interpretation of the *Veda*-text which is regarded as the foundation of the caste-system of India. The interpretation may be gathered here in a foot-note because of its interest, and as a specimen of the thought of the author. 'The *brāhmaṇa* was Its mouth'—the mouth of *Brahman* means *jñāna*, knowledge; from and by knowledge only the *brāhmaṇa* was born, lives and shall live, always. 'The *rājanya* was made the arms'—the *rājanya* or *kehaṭṭriya* is he who is steadfast in the practice of *rāja-yoga*, the royal

This *ānṭarya*,¹ 'relativity,' 'similarity in diversity,' extends everywhere. Like other greatness and smallness, great knowledge and or highest form of *yoga*; *bāhu*, (which is commonly explained as the arm, in accordance with current Samskr̥t grammar) is *Samsāra*, the World-process; he is the maker of *Samsāra* by means of the resolve 'May I become *bāhu* or many'. By the use of the word *bāhu*, (transformed by some rule of archaic Samskr̥t grammar into *bāhu*) it is meant that all the world has separately the right to *jñāna*, knowledge. 'The *vaishya* came from the knee'—*jānu* (ordinarily meaning the knee but probably connected in archaic Samskr̥t with *jñā*, to know, in some way) means the extent of memory; '*jānu* is used for *smaraṇa*'. *Vaishya* signifies the bringing of the senses into *vashā* or control. 'The *śhūdra* was born from the feet'—*pāda*, foot, refers to service. The realisation of all beings as the Self and consequent service of all—such is the characteristic of the *śhūdra*. All these refer to the knowledge of *Brahman*. Such is the author's metaphysical reduction of the four castes into different stages in the growth of the same *jīva*, showing its gradual growth in *Brahman*-realisation, the stages being named by the names of the castes, but in an order the inverse of that currently given to them, the *śhūdra* standing for the stage of highest self-sacrifice and therefore the most practical realisation of the Self.

¹ The modern Samskr̥t equivalent is *sāpekṣhya*.

small knowledge are also always comparative only. Strictly, the whole of knowledge, the whole of Samsāra, exists within each thousand-thousandth of each atom.¹ The u ḍ ḍ h a r a ṇ a, 'up-taking,' 'recovery' of any particular item out of this potential all-knowledge is memory.

In one sense memory may be said to be a form of a-bhāva or non-being, because it has no immediate outwardly existing object; but it is not pure non-being, it is a latent condition or mode of jñāna and has always a beginning and an end as only things existent have. And beginning and end are always relative to and inseparably connected with each other; what has a beginning has an end, and *vice versa*; so too, what is beginningless is endless, and *vice versa*. It is true that there is a current belief that a-bhāva, non-being, had no beginning but has an end. But on scrutiny, it appears that being and non-being are called 'endless' only with respect to one aspect of each, that 'being' underlies both being and non-being, that that saṭṭā, 'being,' in both is one and the same, and that only that

¹ Taken together with the important distinction pointed above between the transcendental all and the comparative all, this sentence seems to throw much light on the significance and value of processes of meditation, the steadying of the chiṭṭa-atom and so enabling it to reflect the all instead of a few (*Yoga-sūtra*, I. 32, III. 33, 54, etc.)

which *is* can become *is not*. A-bhāva, non-being, implies that *nothing*, i. e., *nothing* as itself a fact, *is*. Negation, indeed, is the *Shakti*, the Energy, of *Brahman*. Thus, strictly, both being and nothing are beginningless and endless, and they are immanent in each other.

(The meaning of the above may perhaps be made more clear and concrete in this fashion. A-bhāva, non-being, *pure and simple*, if it has no beginning has no end either. What *has* an end is the a-bhāva, the non-existence, of *some particular thing*. This tree, this house, this town, *was not*, and now *is*. But as soon as we speak of some one particular thing as being non-existent at any particular time, we necessarily postulate the *possible* existence of that thing in a preceding time. The thing is *first present in our consciousness*, and we notice *its* non-existence in any particular space and time in the *second* moment. The negation of a thing assumes significance, acquires meaning, *after* and not before the *affirmation*, even though as a mere possibility, of that thing. *Undefined* negation, if beginningless, is also endless. *Defined* negation, negation defined, demarcated, specialised, by and of any thing, the non-existence of some one particular thing, is neither beginningless nor endless. It had a beginning, for our consciousness—and the specialisation or definition has no significance at all apart from ‘our consciousness’—

the moment *after* the special thing came into our consciousness ; it began when, after having postulated the thing of which it is predicated in one moment, in the next moment we *noticed its* non-existence. Thus then, there is an indefeasible relativity and connexion between 'being' and 'non-being' or 'nothing' and between 'existence' and 'non-existence'. When we say that non-being is beginningless we mean that no being or nothing ever was, or, in other words, that 'all' was not ; and if this is true then it is also true that no being or nothing ever will be, or, in other words, that 'all' will never be. But if we say 'non-existence,' *i. e.*, the non-existence of this particular thing, has an end, then it is also true that the non-existence of this particular thing had a beginning also. This is so true indeed, that we have *the fact* embodied in such proverbs as that 'there is nothing new under the sun,' but that there are only repetitions and recurrences. And this is not surprising, for, by metaphysic, fact and consciousness mean the same thing.¹)

So the arising and disappearing of memory are also mutually related by means of the

¹ The above discussion has a special bearing on the practical question whether *mokṣha* or *mukṭi* or *nirvāṇa*, once attained, lasts ever and ever, *i. e.*, for the rest of all time, or not. The current view, as held by all the 'believing' schools of Indian

common element of cognition, even as being and nothing are mutually immanent in the philosophy to-day, is that *baṇḍhaṇa*, bondage, or *aviḍyā*, nescience, has no beginning but has an end; and that, conversely, *mukṭi*, liberation, has a beginning but has no end. Loss of the true metaphysic, confusion as to the real nature of liberation and the wish to avoid the troubles of return from freedom into bondage—these are the parents of this current and illogical view which really does not carry conviction even to the professors of it. To the metaphysic expounded in this work it is clear and unobjectionable and indeed perfectly satisfactory that the freedom which has a beginning should have and has an end again in bondage also, while the freedom that has no end has no beginning either. See the last section of the work for unmistakeable statements on this point.

Note:—Psychological observations occur all over the work naturally in view of the fact that the triplet of cognition, desire and action is almost the foundation of its system, its importance therein being second only to that of the ultimate triplet of Self, Not-Self and Negation which is the deepest and most essential ground-work. Yet the bulk of the psychology of the work, in the modern sense of the term, may be said to be gathered in this section. Nowhere else in the course of the work is there such a connected discussion of psychological topics except

all inclusive Br a h m ā n, best named by the all comprehending AUM, the contents of which

in two other places towards the close of the third section where the emotions and again the nature of m a n a s and b u d d h i, etc., are discussed. It has been already remarked in a previous foot-note that different races and sub-races perceive different aspects of the same facts; and this is very noticeable in the sub-topics treated here. The sub-topics that are familiar in modern western works of psychology are not to be readily found here in the identical form. The main topics, cognition, desire and action, are also somewhat different from the modern tripartite division of intellect, feeling and will; that the former is the really accurate and much the more valuable classification will be obvious to the reader who goes through the whole work. The syllabus printed in the article on Psychology in Baldwin's *Dictionary of Philosophy and Psychology*, may be also cited as showing the tendency of western psychologists to travel in the direction of the older classification. For a discussion of the subject the reader may be referred to *The Science of the Emotions*, CH. iii., *The Science of Peace*, CH. ix., and an article entitled "Pure Verbalism" published in *The Theosophical Review* for April 1905. As to such sub-topics as sensation, perception, conception, attention, apperception, selection, comparison, association of ideas, imagination, judgment, belief, constructiveness, instinct, impulse, ethics, æsthetics, etc., etc., to say not thing of the topics newly created by the development-

are expounded in the *Vēdas* with their *Āṅgas* and *Upāṅgas*.

of psycho-physics—these are not treated of in this work in their exact modern sense. The reason is, in the first place, of course, the fact that the work does not profess to be an exhaustive one on psychology, but only an outline of metaphysic, and in the second place, the difference of standpoint of the author. At the same time, it must be obvious to the careful student that the *sources* of all these sub-topics are touched upon in the book, and that if the successive classification and continuous sub-division by triplets were carried out to any length, all the shades and aspects or modes and ‘faculties’ of consciousness or mind that have been caught by modern psychology would find their due places in that scheme with much other valuable material besides. Facts and indications of psycho-physics will be found here also, later on, not in the way of inchoate and unconscious suggestions, but of statements of developed results of investigation as to the connexion of nerve-ganglia with mental processes, ‘the localisation of functions,’ and the formation of living organisms by and out of atoms; only unfortunately the statements are far too few and therefore help but to tantalise. It is more than likely that the works on *Yoga* in that literature to which the *Prāṇava-vūḍa* belongs, would, if brought to light, be found to contain more information on this subject of psycho-physics.

SECTION III.

Kriyā—ACTION.

CHAPTER I.

THE RELATION OF ACTION TO KNOWLEDGE

i.e. THE VEDAS.

Action as the fruit of cognition and desire.—Right action possible only after right knowledge and right desire, *i. e.*, after mastery of the four *Veḍas*, *R̥k*, *Yajuh*, *Sūma*, and *Aṭharra*, corresponding to cognition, desire, action and their summation, respectively.—The fourfold sub-division of each *Veḍa*, into *Mantra*, *Brāhmaṇa*, *Upaniṣat* and *Tantra*, by the same correspondence.—The study of all the four *Veḍas* necessary for perfect accomplishment of the four stages of life and the achievement of *mokṣha*.—The fourfold path to *mokṣha*.—The four *āshramas*, governed by the same correspondence.—Their inner significance.

The brief exposition of the nature of *ichchhā* or desire, and *jñāna* or cognition, in the previous section was a partial exposition of the constitution of the *Praṇava*. The fruit, the result, of that constitution is *kriyā* or action, to be explained now. (It should be remembered, however that this description of action as the fruit of the constitution of the *Praṇava* does not mean

that it falls outside that constitution. The fruit is also within it as the last and completing constituent.)

The triplet of *j ñ ā n a*, *i c h c h h ā* and *k r i y ā*, cognition, desire and action, is all included in the *Pranava*, the AUM. *J ñ ā n a* is *Ā t m ā*, the Self; *i c h c h h ā*, the expression of the Negation¹;

¹This statement, *viz.*, that desire corresponds to Negation, is, at first sight, apt to be very puzzling; desire seems to be something so positive, indeed the root of all positive action. The full significance of the statement will unravel in the course of the book itself, naturally, especially in the chapter on the *Sīma-Veḍa*. But, in the meanwhile, it may perhaps be helpful to point out that negation hides affirmation within it. The closing paragraphs of the last chapter have an important bearing on this point. When the World-process is summed up in the words 'I-This-Not,' it is described as the eternal and changeless realisation of the Self by Itself in one single act of consciousness, as being 'nothing else than Itself'. In this act of consciousness, the 'else' is denied, negated, is declared to be nothing, but even in the moment of so denying it a false possibility of existence, a pseudo-existence, is given to it, is affirmed of it. Hence Negation becomes the *Shakṭi*, the Energy, of *affirmation-negation* in the successive procession of the world, from the standpoint of the limited 'else'. And this is the very nature and essence of desire; it affirms and denies; it craves and suffers surfeit; it loves and

while *kriyā*, the modifications or operations of consciousness which appear as doings, actions, movements, should be regarded as equivalent to the whole of *Samsāra*, the World-process. All manifestation takes place only when the actor projects action.

These three, together with the fourth which is their summation, their unity, make the 'four noble truths' of *Brahman*. All these four are declared to be *Brahman*. The four hates; it is desire and aversion. Because the aspect of it, which is dominant or uppermost, which is so to say final, is the negative one, because in the Logion and in actual world-fact, Negation is the real relation of the Self to the Not-Self, therefore, in this book, desire is said everywhere to correspond to and to be of the nature of Negation. The discussion of the value of Negation or the negative is perennial in modern logic; though the standpoint is very different yet still if the reader has followed it in any good treatise, *e.g.*, Sigwart's *Logic*, Vol I., ch. iv., and has revolved in mind all the bearings of Spinoza's celebrated saying, '*omnis determinatio est negatio*,' he will have prepared his way to the very comprehensive significance given to the Negation here. The continual freshness of the subject is illustrated, for instance, by such a recent article as that on "Contradiction and Reality" by Bernard Bosanquet in *Mind* for January, 1906. For a fuller discussion of the nature of the Negation see *The Science of Peace*, CHS. xi-xii.

Veḍas are these four truths. The *Rḡ-Veḍa* is devoted to cognition ; the *Yajur-Veḍa* to action ; the *Sāma-Veḍa* to desire ; the seed and the unity of these is the subject of the *Aṭharva-Veḍa*. Each of the *Veḍas*, again, is sub-divided in accordance with this trinity into : the *Maṇṭra*, connected with cognition ; the *Brāhmaṇa*, with action ; the *Upaniṣhaṭ*, with desire ; and, finally, the *Taṇṭra*, also called the *Upa-veḍa*, which is the seed and unity, the summation, of these. Each of these four, *Maṇṭra*, etc., is further sub-divided fourfold, and so on endlessly. The *Maṇṭra* part is also called the *Samhiṭā*. That which 'brings together' all things is *Samhiṭā*. 'Knows,' hence *Veḍa* (from the root vid, to know). *Veḍa* is knowledge connected with Brahman and hence of all things whatsoever. Therefore is the *Veḍa* said to be the manifest form of Brahman. Therefore too is it said that the knower of the *Veḍa* becometh Brahman. That whereby is known, ṛkṣhaṭē, the ṭaṭṭva, the essential truth, of Brahman is the *Rḡ-Veḍa-Samhiṭā*. That whereby is made, brought about, in sacrifices, yajaṭē, the manifestation of that ṭaṭṭva, is the *Yajur-Veḍa-Samhiṭā*. That whereby are balanced sāmyaṭē, brought together, connected, by desire, the other two, viz., cognition and action, that is the *Sāma-Veḍa-Samhiṭā*. That whereby the fruit of these three is obtained,

aryate, is the *Aṭharva-Veda-Samhitā*.¹ The purpose of these four *Samhitā*-parts is the setting forth of all knowledge about cognition, action, desire and their fruit.

¹ These derivations are archaic and only partly recognised by modern Samskr̥t grammar. In current Samskr̥t, ṛch means to eulogise, and ṛchch, to 'reach,' to go, to obtain, to faint, to enter into trance, to take shape (anew), to command, etc. Yaj is to offer up, to sacrifice. Sāma to conciliate, to harmonise. Aṭharva is variously derived; a+ṭhurva, to 'not injure' (to negate the corruption of the primal purity of the Self); or aṭha=arṭha, to pray, to intend, to will, +ṛ, to move or ṛchch, i.e., to work by will, etc. By current tradition the *Aṭharva-Veda* is regarded as the reverse of what the derivation would imply, viz. as 'impure,' 'injurious,' etc. The reason may be that because it was the completion and the highest of the *Vedas*, and imparted knowledge which would be the most 'dangerous,' if it fell into evil hands and was misused, therefore it was enveloped in such a tradition, and guarded like the secrets of the army and navy departments of modern governments. The special form that was given to the tradition might be due to the psychological condition—like that of grown-up children—of earlier humanity. The etymology of the name of Vishvāmitra, the seer of the *Gāyatrī* is similar. Apparently the word means 'the non-friend of the world'; really 'the great friend of it'.

By *Rk*, *Yajuh*, *Sāma* and *Aṭharva*, all four together, is Brahman to be obtained. Each singly is useless. Not by knowledge alone is Brahman found; nor by action alone; nor by desire alone. Fourfold is the truth of Brahman. Cognition, desire and action are all equally necessary means to mokṣha, liberation, deliverance from pain and sorrow and limitations. All and each is dependent on and supported by all and each. This is what is meant by statements like this, *viz.*, 'By the knowledge of a single atom may knowledge of Brahman be obtained.' From the point of view of relativity all are small and all are great. Each atom is Brahman, because cognition, desire and action are present everywhere and in each atom. To see and hear and fully know one atom is therefore to know Brahman.¹ But by such *knowledge* alone the transcendental state of Brahman is not wholly attained.

¹ Compare Tennyson's pretty little poetical address to the "Flower in the crannied wall". It is well recognised at the present day that *complete* knowledge about any one thing implies literal omniscience; but the reason for this is supposed to be that everything is connected in some way or other with everything else. But in this work, and in the scheme of metaphysic it propounds, the *additional* reason is given that everything also *contains* everything else.

For Brahman is the transcendental and infinite totality of all things, great and small, (and such mere knowledge can therefore amount to only a third of Brahman, and not to a full realisation of the whole of It) ; for that full realisation of It which is meant by mokṣha, all three, knowledge, desire and action, are necessary. He who has the power of knowledge, of desire and of action, he alone is the knower of *Veda*, he is the finder, winner and possessor of Brahman.

Hence the unavoidable necessity of studying *all* the four *Vedas*.

After completing the study of all the *Vedas*, and finishing the stage of brahmacharya or celibate studentship, the human being should enter on the life of the grhasṭha or householder. The rule is that the household should be undertaken only after completing brahmacharya (which means, literally, the *practice* or the pursuit of Brahman). Unperfected in the practice of Brahman the man may not enter the household life. Till he knows the whole truth of Brahman, the whole of the *Veda*, he cannot perform rightly the work of the world in the shape of the householder's life.¹ Triple is the work of the world—

¹In modern days, Kingsley has urged that men should pass a certain examination before being permitted to take up the married life. It is

cognition, and desire, and action based on these two. Where all this triplet appears in due and balanced exercise, that is the genuine household life. So long, therefore, as the man does not know the whole secret of this triplet and of their mutual connexion and summation, so long is he unworthy to take up the work of the household. After *gārhaṣṭhya*, the household life, comes *vānaprastha*, the forest life, and finally *saṇnyāsa*, the life of renunciation.

In the course of the household life all actions should be performed, in accordance with the law of necessity, even as Brahman carries on the whole work of Samsāra within Itself. In that life there should be no such ideas entertained of illusive separateness as that 'this is thine,' 'this is mine,' 'he is mine,' 'this is another's,' etc. The welcoming of all and the accomplishment of everything, by means of cognition, desire and action,—such is the high duty of the householder. For charity, for self-sacrifice, and for the perfecting of the Brahman-state within oneself, is the householder's life to be undertaken. The fruit and moral of all the study of all the *Veḍas* is but this: Cast

interesting, in this connexion, to note how completely this theory and practice of life would solve the matrimonial questions now vexing the western world. (Note sent by Mr. E. H. Bellairs.) We may very well add, 'and the eastern,' at this day.

out the *svārtha*, the self-seeking, the selfishness, that is ingrained in the heart of every individual organism; also pass beyond *parārtha*, the other-seeking or altruism that also harbours, though in a different way, the sense of otherness and separateness; perform only the *paramārtha*, the highest end, *necessary* duty.¹ Egoism and altruism both belong to *bandhana*, bondage; *paramārtha*, duty, alone is the true refuge of all who crave *mokṣha*, freedom. Having accomplished *brahmacharya* and known the eternal *Brahman*, having understood all this world, above and below, high and low, to be triple in nature, and

¹ A fundamental difference between eastern and western ethics may be noted here, as due to the different views of the divine nature severally entertained. The western view of God as extra-cosmic, as apart from His world, leaves each spirit as eternally separate from every other spirit; hence there are always 'others,' and love to, and service of, all these others, altruism, is the highest conceivable ideal. The eastern view of God as inter-cosmic, informing, immanent in, His world, makes each spirit identical in essence with 'Himself' and with all others; hence, when all is truly seen, there are no 'others,' but only one all-pervading Self; altruism vanishes as well as egoism, and the living of the One Self in all its parts, the performance of necessary action, is the 'highest end'. (A. B.)

then having donned the household life, let the man serve all the world with all his power as his set duty. Guests, casual comers, worthy brahmacharīs, yāṭīs, hermits of pure ways, sannyāsīs who have renounced the worldly life, forest-dwellers, and other householders too, should be supported by him with all his resources. They should all be welcomed and honored by the householder who has attained to the state of Brahman, who is mukṭa, who is established in the supreme peace that is the heart of Brahman. This is the only worthy āśhrama, this is the refuge, the resting-place and support, of all beings. Brāhmaṇas, yogīs, great-souled jīvan-mukṭas, Mahā-Viṣṇu himself, the ruler of our world-system, all are householders bearing assiduously the burden of the world, ever engaged in all duties, yet ever free from all karma, self-established, equable-souled, ever beholding themselves as the One Self in all things.¹

¹ This is the ideal aristocracy where the lords and nobles, as representing the divine monarchy, live only to turn the wheel of Duty, '*noblesse oblige*.' It is the ideal democracy also, for the essential and ultimate equality of all jīvas and the necessity of each working for all according to his qualifications is also perfectly recognised and insisted on herein.

The word āśhrama means 'that wherein people rest, or are rested on,' āśhriyaṇṭē aśmin. Because of this, and because of cognition, desire, action, and their mutual relation (being the four 'resting-places' or aspects of consciousness which are the essence and the whole of life), these four stages are called āśhramas. Studentship is related to cognition, the household-life to action, the forest-stage to desire; renunciation is the summation.¹

The duties of all these āśhramas should be discharged perfectly by man; and they cannot be so discharged without mastery of all the four *Vedas*. Hence the reiterated injunction that they should be studied in their totality in the first stage. In the household, the feeling of selfishness, māna-tā, 'mineness,' is transcended gradually. The object that is at first exclusively appropriated to the use of oneself, becomes, in consequence of the espousal of a wife, appropriated to that of two; and yet again, when children appear, to that of three, four, five, and so on. Thus gradually the man comes to realise the whole world as himself; and this, because, in fact, all are one. He who has seen

¹ From another standpoint the four stages may be classed into two groups, the first two (as preparation and accomplishment) making up the pravṛtti half of life, and the second two (again as preparation and achievement) of the nivṛtti half.

and known Brahman during brahmacharya, he, because of that fact, feels a family relationship and an equal mood of love towards all beings, and acts accordingly. Having discharged the duties of the household the man passes into the forest-life, of the nature of desire. The consciousness belonging to that stage is this: Whatever I have done, or am doing, or shall do, is all necessary and not dependent on any capricious will of mine, thine, or another's. This is the natural result of the Negation which corresponds to desire and the forest-life. In sannnyāsa even this disappears. That wherein all previous karma is 'well destroyed,' samyak nasyaṭi¹, is sannnyāsa. The consciousness belonging to this stage is: There is no necessity and no contingency; nothing belongs to others or to us, to all or to any one; whatever is, is the Trinity only. Acquisition of knowledge in brahmacharya; practice thereof in gārhaṣṭhya; certainty in vānaprastha; realisation

¹ The etymologies reproduced in this summary are all taken from the original text, *verbatim*, thus, the word in the text is nasyaṭi and not nashyaṭi nor nyasyaṭi; they are not all in accordance with modern Samskr̥t grammar and should be assumed to be archaic. Paṇḍit Dhanarāja maintained that they are all perfectly justified by the older and truer and far more comprehensive grammar.

in sannyāsa—such is the distinction between them,

But, verily, there is no difference
 Of student, and of dweller in the house,
 And anchorite, and roamer of the earth.
 The Self hath neither caste, nor staged life.
 Nor brāhmaṇa am I, nor kṣhāṭṭriya,
 Nor am I vaiśya, and not shūdra too,
 Not student, and not honored patriarch,
 Nor forest eremite, nor wanderor
 Without possessions or in heaven or earth,
 I own and owe no duties and no rights,
 I am what these subserve as humble means,
 I am the Free, through and from all these
 bonds,
 I am the Self, Self-Conscious Formlessness.
 And all this panorama of the world,
 Broad-spread and ever-moving, seemingly,
 Is but one vast rock-bound necessity¹,
 Is very Brahmaṇ, Being-Wisdom-Bliss
 One changeless whole, Tri-unity of AUM.

¹ See *The science of Peace*, pp. 138, et seq.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER II.

THE GENESIS OF THE VEDAS.

The authors of the *Vedas*.—The rulers of the worlds.
—The world-systems and cycles which they rule.

The World-process works by means of hierarchies of rulers, endlessly graded as subordinates and overlords, all classified by functions under cognition, desire, action and summation, and dealing with definite cycles and extents of space and time, *i. e.*, world-systems, on all scales, ever minuter and ever vaster. Each world-system has a Brahmā, a Viṣṇu and a Shiva, the three being subordinate to a Mahā-Viṣṇu.¹

Mahā-Viṣṇu ideates, places before himself, the *Atharva Veda*, and deals with the summation; Viṣṇu, the *Rg-Veda* and cognition; Brahmā, the *Yajur-Veda* and action; and Shiva, the *Sāma* and desire.

¹ It would probably be correct to add at the end of this sentence, 'in our world-system'. It seems likely that in other world-systems, a Mahā-Shiva or a Mahā-Brahmā is the overlord, according to the predominance of the element of desire or of action in the system. This is hinted in the work elsewhere.

That whereinto all enter, *vishanṭi*, is Viṣṇu; he who covers up, *vriṇīṭē*, envelopes, surrounds, undertakes all, is Brahmā; he who sleeps, *sheṭē*, in everything, is Shiva. Shiva sleeps, lies hidden, in all and everything as the nexus, the bond, and this is the nature of desire. *Vriṇīṭē* signifies the envelopment, the covering with an envelope, the demarcation of the limiting bounds or the periphery, and so the formation or creation (of all forms); and this is action presided over by Brahmā. *Vishanṭi sarvāṇi* indicates that all things enter into It and It into all, and such is the Self, connected with cognition and Viṣṇu. The summation or totality of these is Mahā-Viṣṇu.

Mahā-Viṣṇu, 'the overlord of all this world-system, is described as the Īshvara, white-colored, four-armed, adorned with the conch, the discus, the mace, the lotus, the forest-wreath, and the *kanstubha*-gem, shining, vested in blue and yellow, endless and imperishable in form, attributeless yet ensouling and underlying all attributes.¹ Here, the epithet Īshvara indicates the ruler; the four arms, the four activities of

¹ Such parts of the description here as in strictness belong only to the impersonal Brahman, *e.g.*, "attributeless,...all sound,...all time,...the whole of that procession...etc.," are to be understood to apply to Mahā-Viṣṇu only in a comparative sense, *i.e.*, within the limits of his own body, world-system, 'Ring-pass-not,' or periphery.

cognition, etc.; the white resplendence is the illumination of all things; the *śhaṅkha*, conch or shell, indicates all sound, and the *chakra*, wheel or discus, all time, there being a connexion between the two; *gaḍā*, the (whirling) mace, is the spiral method of the procession of the world and the lotus-flower is the whole of that procession; the *vanamālā*, the wreath of forest flowers, indicates the stringing together of all things into unity and necessity; the *nīla-piṭ-āmbara*, blue and yellow vestures, are darkness and light; the *kaustubha* jewel indicates inseparable connexion with all; *nirguṇa*, attributeless, shows the presence of the nature of Negation; while *saguṇa*, attributive, implies possession of name and form.¹

The World-process (as embodied in our world-system) is the result of the ideation of Mahā-

¹ The reasons for these attributions of symbols may be a little further explained. Sound is creative—and destructive; forms are built up by sound, and it has been shown by many experiments that shell-forms are among the most frequent creations of musical notes; for these reasons, as well as for the very powerful and peculiar vibrations caused by blowing into it, the conch has been selected as the symbol of creative activity by sound. The *chakra* or whirling disc is the *svastikā*, the cross of fire, which, in rapid rotation, has each arm blown backwards; it is found everywhere in

Viṣṇu. This ideation of the methods, laws, principles or outlines of that World-process is the *Veḍa*, (as 'I am this and this and this, and not this and this and this' etc). It is true that the ideation is the *Samsāra*, the World-process, and that there is no difference between the two, *i.e.*, between ideation as *Veḍa* and ideation as *Samsāra*; but all manifestation and description of the successive implies the principle of beginnings and ends, and that implies

the world, also as a symbol of creative fire, the 'electric cross,' or wheel. As the conch symbolises creation in space, so is the *svastikā* creation in time, the whirling arms signifying succession. The mace is often given as the sign of rule, held by the ruler of the world-system, the sceptre which directs and if necessary, punishes. The lotus-flower is the symbol of a universe, and this owing to the fact that our universe, *i.e.*, our solar system, when seen from a higher plane, looks like an expanded flower of that kind. All wreaths symbolise the threading of the many on the One. "All this is threaded on me as pearls on a string." The blue vesture symbolises the blue of space, which is, in truth, darkness, and the yellow, the golden rays of the sun, the source of light. The *kaustubha*-gem is the 'Jewel in the Lotus,' the Self in the Universe, and hence ever adorns the breast of Him in whom the I and the This are united, the *Ishvara* of a universe. (A.B.)

separateness between description and described, thought and thing. (Thought and thing are one only from the standpoint of the absolute Brahman, wherein the whole World-process is summed up in a single act of consciousness; in the successive, on the other hand, they become two; the ideation of a definite portion, treated as *a whole*, becomes an *inner* and ever-complete *potential*; and the *parts* of this, an *outer* and successive *actual*.)¹ Otherwise, indeed, the World-process is Brahman and that is All-Consciousness, All-Ideation.

From Mahā-Viṣṇu arise in succession, Viṣṇu, Brahmā and Shiva, cognition, action and desire, and each receives from him the *Veḍa*, i.e., the statute, the body of rules, suited to his own department of work, viz., *Rk*, *Yajuh* and *Sāma*, respectively, the totality being the *Aṭharva*. This order is only actual (to our world-system) and not essential. Each of the three gods knows all the *Veḍas*, because of their mutual relation, their unity, in fact. Brahmā, no doubt, is said to be the *Karṭā*, the actor or maker, of the *Veḍas*. But this means only that he is the *active* promulgator and teacher of the *Veḍas* (to the world that he makes or creates). He is inseparably connected with all action.

¹ For fuller discussion of this distinction between ideal and real see *The Science of Peace*, pp. 283-284.

Whatever appears or is seen or heard or learnt—all that is action ; and Brahmā must be regarded as the *actor* of it all.

As is declared,¹ Brahmā, gave, that is, taught, the *Veḍas* to his eldest son Aṭharva. Aṭharva here signifies the summation, the totality, of the *jīvas* that Brahmā has to deal with. It is also said, in further detail, that Brahmā spoke the *Veḍas* to Br̥haspati ; he to Indra ; he to Bharadvāja ; he to the ṛṣhis ; and they to the brāhmaṇas, etc. Here, Br̥haspati indicates a certain class of *jīvas*, and Indra is an office-bearer also concerned with action. The declaration of the *Veḍas* thus passed downwards in succession through the various hierarchies, for the instruction and benefit of all creation.²

¹ In the *Muṇḍaka-Upaniṣat*.

² According to recognised Hindū tradition, the present fourfold division is due to Vyāsa, who said that the then coming race of men would not be able to receive the whole knowledge, as conveyed in the single *Veḍa*, and hence divided it into four. It may be remarked that similarly, the four castes are due to the incapacity of humanity to unfold itself symmetrically, balanced in each direction ; hence it became necessary to practise one set or class of virtues at a time, and to allocate one set to one caste, causing for the time an unequal, lopsided evolution, to be subsequently balanced up in the perfect Yogī, who belongs to no caste, but manifests the virtues of all. (A.B.)

It is true that the world extends endlessly beyond Mahā-Viṣṇu also, but we, as limited individuals, can deal with only limited details. We have no words for matters beyond Mahā-Viṣṇu. The *Mahā-Veḍa*, which is known only to Mahā-Viṣṇu and the three gods immediately next in degree deals with such matters. Our knowledge, *i.e.*, the knowledge of *jīvas* belonging to our particular world-system, can range only within the limits of these *Veḍas*, from an atom (in size) and a thousandth of a *ṭruti* (in time) to Mahā-Viṣṇu.

The various cycles that our gods and we are concerned with may be briefly mentioned here. Knowledge of cycles brings knowledge of the reason of those statements in the *Veḍas* which deal with time, as the *Praṇava*-logion deals with the Timeless that includes all time. As the time-measures from the *ṭruti* up to the *yuga* are matter of common knowledge, we shall begin here with the *yuga*, taking our ordinary human years for this measurement. It is true that all months and years belong to all, (*i.e.*, any system of years and months can be used to measure the course of any system of events); but this depends upon the knowledge (of the measurer being sufficiently comprehensive to include both the sets of systems concerned, in their proper mutual proportion and co-ordination in a

larger system)¹; otherwise the year of one jīva is the month of another, and *vice versa*, this being entirely a relative matter.

The kṛtā-yuga or saḍ-yuga, concerned with cognition, covers 1,736,000 years; the tṛetā, dealing with action, extends over 1,245,000²; 864,000 years make the dvāpara, devoted to desire; kali, with 432,000 years, is the summation of all.

One set of these four = 1 chaṭur-yuga.

1000 chaṭur-yuga-s = 1 viyuga.

1000 viyuga-s = 1 mahā-yuga.

1000 mahā-yuga-s = 1 kalpa.

7 kalpa-s = 1 mahā-kalpa.

14 mahā-kalpa-s = 1 chakra.

14 chakra-s = 1 niṣṭha.

14 niṣṭha-s = 1 manu.

(2 manu-s = 1 manvantara).

14 manu-s or
7 manvantara-s } = 1 { mahā-
manvantara.

¹ Thus perhaps the octal and the decimal systems could both be reduced and merged into a system in which progress was in twos; so the apparent incompatibility between matter of three dimensions and matter of more or less dimensions so-called, would probably be removed if the 'atom' which is the 'greatest common measure' of both were found.

² Modern *Jyotiṣha* assigns 1,728,000, and 1,296,000 respectively to kṛtā and tṛetā.

7 m a h a-m a n- v a n ṭ a r a-s	} = 1 n i k ṣ h a.
7 n i k ṣ h a-s	= 1 c h ā r ḍ h y a,
7 c h ā r ḍ h y a-s	= 1 ḍ a i v a.
7 ḍ a i v a-s	= 1 v i n i h i ṭ a-cycle.

This progress by sevens is endless. The cause of it is the quartette of cognition etc. By successive addition of each one of these four (to the quartette) we get 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 etc., endlessly (?)

Ordinarily, seven m a n v a n ṭ a r a s are said to make a m a h ā-m a n v a n ṭ a r a; but each m a n v a n ṭ a r a is made up of the 'interval' between two Manus; hence 14 m a n u s, complete the m a h ā-m a n v a n ṭ a r a.¹

¹ The ruler of the cycle is called Manu, and the period of his reign is also called m a n u here. The details, and the reasons for the details, of this table are naturally difficult to understand without much other information which is so far 'occult' and hidden from the public. There is also some discrepancy between the current Hindū notions on the subject of the m a n v a n ṭ a r a s or the theosophical ideas of them (as stated in Mrs. Besant's note below) which would probably disappear if the requisite commentaries on the *Purāṇas* were available.

The Manu who rules over the period of manifestation is called the Root-Manu, since from him proceeds all growth during that period; the Manu

As a matter of fact, the knowledge of (our world's) *yogīs* and *brāhmaṇas* does not extend beyond the limits of a *mahā-man-van-tara* in its past, present and future.

The ruler of a *mahā-man-van-tara* is a *Mahā-Viṣṇu*. Cycles beyond this and up to the *vinihīta* have been mentioned here only to indicate the endlessness of time. The Sun, which is the light of *Mahā-Viṣṇu*, is the standard of measure of our world for time and space. By the movements of the Sun we have *ghatī*, *mahā-ghatī*, day, week, fortnight, month, and year. One sun illuminates one *brahmāṇḍa*, and includes seven planets in accordance with that same fourfold rule of cognition, etc., (and subsequent additions. Our seven planets are) *Sūrya*, *Chandra*, *Bhāuma*, *Budha* (the son) of *Shashī*, *Jīva*, *Bhṛgu* and *Shani*.¹

who rules over the period of *pralaya* is called the Seed-Manu, since in him are gathered up all the results of the period of manifestation, and they mature in him during the time of rest. The period of manifestation is called the *man-van-tara*, 'between (two) Manus,' and is under the Root-Manu. (A. B.)

¹ These are the same as those mentioned by current *Jyotiṣha*. The Sun and the Moon are obviously not 'planets' in the modern sense of the word; western astrologers recognise Mercury,

1 Sun with seven planets = 1 brahmānda,
 revolving in a
 vast cycle, the
 maker and ruler
 of which is tech-
 nically called Īs-
 hvara.

7 brahmāndas = 1 jagat, made and
 ruled by a Hari.

1000 jagats = 1 vishva, by a Hara.

15,000,000 vishvas = 1 mahā-vishva,
 by a Pareshvara.

Two shāṅkhas of { = 1 } loka, by a Para-
 mahā-vishvas { } meshvara.

One Mahā-shāṅ- } = 1 { mahā-loka, by
 kha of lokas } a Maheshvara.

One hundred pad- } = 1 { samsāra, by
 mas of mahā-lokas } a Mahā-Viṣṇu.

Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Herschel or Uranus, regarding the 'Moon' as substituted for the Earth, and the 'Sun' for Uranus. Some add Neptune. In the western horoscope, the Sun and Moon have their 'houses,' as powerful influences, and the nodes of the Moon, Rāhu and Keṭu are also recognised. The text making one Sun with seven, takes the theosophical view, in which the Sun is the eighth, and is not included in the seven. See *The Secret Doctrine*, i. 483, 578. The seven planets are the brothers of the Sun. (A. B.)

Mahā-Viṣṇu presides over the summation and totality of all this. In every brahmāṇḍa the activity is fourfold, and the chief functionaries are Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Shiva. Sub-divisions of their functions give rise to the names and offices of Nārāyaṇa, etc.

Among these functions, that of making or creating goes with action and belongs to Brahmā. Again, "that which has been made is maintained by knowledge"; this maintenance or preservation is the work of Viṣṇu. Further, because it is necessary that what has appeared should disappear, therefore is there a destroyer, and he is Shiva, connected with desire (which first affirms and next denies, acts and reacts, now attracts and then repels, begins with craving for, and, after satiety, revolts from, its object and casts it off. It precedes action or Brahmā, as longing for manifestation; and it succeeds knowledge or Viṣṇu, after maintenance or enjoyment of that manifestation, as a sense of fatigue, a growth of inertness, a need for rest by winding up the manifestation).

The significance of the tradition that Brahma is born from or in the lotus, is the same. The lotus symbolises a world-system, and Brahmā dwells therein representing action; he is therefore called the Kamal-āsana, the Lotus-seated. The lotus, again, is said to arise from or in the

navel' of Viṣṇu, because the navel of Viṣṇu or all-knowledge is *necessary desire*, the primal

¹ It is worth noting that in Samskr̥t literature the navel is often treated as more central and almost more essential to the organism than the heart. Indications of the importance of the heart are not wanting, it is true, as, for instance, in the verse, राजा प्रजानां हृदयं गरीयः but it is probable that physiologically the 'navel' was the more vital organ in the earlier stages of evolution, and is even at the present stage more essentially connected with desire proper than the heart which may perhaps be regarded as connected with the actional sub-division of desire. The nābhi is said to be the principal seat of chitta (at least while it is 'downward-turned,' towards things worldly and material). Compare the English expression 'the nave or hub of the universe'.

The 'navel' represents the solar plexus, perhaps the most important plexus of the sympathetic system; it controls the digestive tract, and sends its branches to liver, spleen, stomach, as well as to the alimentary canal and generative organs. Nor is it unconnected with the lungs and heart. It may be regarded as the brain of the sympathetic system, and responds with dangerous facility to thought; concentration on it, often rashly undertaken, is apt to result in a peculiarly intractable form of nervous disease. Emotions set up in it violent disturbances, and the feeling of a nausea, which often follows an emotional shock, is due to its excited action. (A. B.)

form of which, as embodied in the *Veda*-text, is : May I be born forth (as multitudinous progeny). From such central and essential desire, the will to live, arises the whole of becoming, all the operations, all the whirls and whorls, of change and manifestation which make up life. In such becoming dwells Brahmā, and from him and by him, *i.e.*, by incessant activity, arises and manifests the organised world, the *tri-bhuvanāṃ*, the triple-world. Because first *manifested*, therefore is Brahmā *named* the first of the gods ; by action is manifestation, and he is the actor ; and because actor, therefore is he also sometimes called the preserver or protector of the world ; for he who makes a thing desires also the maintenance and preservation of his handiwork, and, moreover, by the making of the thing supplies the basis and opportunity for the operation of preservation, which, in strictness, of course, belong to Viṣṇu.¹

Compare in this connexion, the statements in some of the 'minor' *Upaniṣads* as to the subdivisions of *agni*, *e.g.*, *kāmāgni*, *koṣṭhāgni*, etc., and the transformation of these various 'energies' or vital forces into one another.

¹ In theosophical phraseology, the Third Logos (corresponding to Brahmā) manifests first, then the Second Logos (corresponding to Viṣṇu) and finally the First Logos (corresponding to Shiva).

Birth, stay, and death ; becoming, succession, relation ; origin, middle, end ; cognition, desire, action ; such triplets make the World-process, and also each world-system, a *ṭri-bhuvanāṃ*, a triple-world, a triple-becoming, a constant illustration of the tri-unity of the absolute *Brahman*.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER III.

THE COMPONENTS OF THE VEDAS.

A résumé—Preliminary remarks about the nature and mutual relations of the *Iṣaṇava*, the *Gāyatrī*, the *Mahā-vākyas* and the *Vedas*.—The fruit of the study of these.

Whatever works are undertaken by *jīvas*, as we see in daily life around us, the methods of carrying them through are all first planned out in thought, and then only is action commenced. The case is the same with Mahā-Viṣṇu. He who is the ruler of this *samsāra*¹ first ideates all the laws, methods, means and ends of its procession and then commences actual work. This very ideation of Mahā-Viṣṇu, which is the method of the process of this world-system and which is also the operation or work of procession itself, is also the *Veda*, as said before. It is also Mahā-Viṣṇu himself, for although the

¹ This word is used in this work in two senses, (i) the metaphysical, that of the World-process, the totality of all possible world-systems of all time and all space, and (ii) the empirical, that of a particular world-system, presided over by a particular Mahā-Viṣṇu. When used in the former sense, it is spelt with a capital S.

matter that is thought about is, in one sense, different from the thinker, still, the latter, at the time of thinking, regards it as *within* himself and then thinks about it; and in that time there is no separateness between the thinker, the object thought about, and the thought; they are all three included in one. Yet, also, we distinguish between the three as separate things. The thinker is not the thought; and the object of thought, again, is different from both.¹ Thus paradoxical must always be the illustration of the whole by a part. And yet, although the fact illustrated is not exactly like the illustration, the latter may enable us to infer correctly what is the fact.

¹ The meaning of this and similar statements will become more and more clear to the reader as he proceeds further and realises more and more fully within himself the two aspects, with their corresponding standpoints, of (i) the universal, simultaneous and all-inclusive One and (ii) the individual and successive Many, dealing with the limited, the particular, the concrete, with one part at a time, in succession. The two aspects and standpoints are more or less clearly recognised in later German philosophy, though it seems to fall short of the final explanation, even as *current* Indian *Vedānta* also just falls short of it. Whosoever has come to realise that the 'transcendental or metaphysical' point of view, as distinguished from the 'empirical

From Mahā-Viṣṇu the subordinate three gods receive the necessary instruction in the or experiential point of view, is not mere verbiage but the very centre of reality, will find that for him the ordinary dark problems, paradoxes and perplexities of psychology, of life and the world, vanish in clear sunlight.

But in order that this realisation may be attained, the intensity of the sense of egoistic personality, of the separateness of *jīva* and *jīva*, of me and thee and he, must have been made at least milder and weaker if not wholly abolished by *vairāgya*. So only can it become possible to see and feel that 'persons' are only parts, limbs, organs, tissues of larger 'persons'; that the sense of 'personality' of the *devas* differs very much in degree from that of fifth-race humans; that it is possible for the trinity of Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Shiva to exist side by side like three persons as well as within one another, or even each other, like the physical, astral and mental sheaths of one *jīva*. (See *The Science of the Emotions*, 2nd ed. p. 245.)

The corresponding Samskr̥t names for the two points of view are *paramārtha-dṛṣṭi* and *vyavahāra-dṛṣṭi*. The importance of this distinction cannot be reiterated too often. (i) This principle of two different standpoints; (ii) The law of analogy, that nature repeats herself, on all possible scales, in space and time; (iii) The principle of reflexion, which is but another form of the law

Vedas ; and they in their turn pass them on to their own special subordinates. Because *Brahmā*

of analogy, that *a* whole endeavors to reproduce *the* Whole, but can only achieve a 'comparative' and never a complete perfection, at any point of space or moment of time ; (iv) That nature or *Prakṛti* works by extremes, and the Truth ever lies in the mean—these are keys to all possible problems.

To illustrate : It has been said in Section. III. Chapter II above that 'thought and thing are one only from the standpoint of *Brahman*,' the Whole. But it is said here for a particular *Mahā-Viṣṇu* also, that his ideation is the work of procession of his world-system and also his *Veḍa*. This should be understood only in a 'comparative' sense. *Brahman* is identical with the World-process 'in its Totality, and therefore is its material cause, as well as its efficient cause, as well as its instrumental cause, as well as its final cause etc. In imitation of this fact, a *Mahā-Viṣṇu* also endeavors to become identical with his world-system ; a 'small portion' of his vast body becomes the 'material cause' of all 'creatures' within his system ; his will is the efficient cause of all processes within it ; his imagination or ideation the instrumental cause of all forms in it ; his self-realisation in and by means of the first individualised, and then 'universalised,' or, strictly, 'generalised' consciousnesses of all his 'creatures,' is the final cause, and so

is pre-eminently concerned with the action of promulgating them, hence, while Mahā-Viṣṇu is the primary author of the *Vedas*, Brahmā is said to be their revealer, and each one of the three gods is also said to be the author of that *Veda* which he specially carries into effect.

Mahā-Viṣṇu's ideation, for the creation of his own world-system, begins after he has himself obtained the AUM, the *Mahā-gāyatrī*, appurtenant *Mahā-vākyas*, and the *Mahā-Veda* from a still higher deity. The *Praṇava*, however, is ultimate¹ and exists everywhere, before, behind and above Mahā-Viṣṇu ; it includes everything. In each, world-system, the Mahā-Viṣṇu thereof corresponds to the totality of the *Praṇava*, and Viṣṇu Brahmā and Shiva to A, U, and M, respectively.

on. In a certain sense, because all effects pre-exist in the cause, Mahā-Viṣṇu *may* be regarded as wholly identical with his world-system ; and so his ideation and the processes thereof *may* be regarded as one. But, again, because we are dealing with the limited here, and *not* the Unlimited, time and space cannot be really discounted, the identity is only *comparative* and not complete, and 'ideation' and 'realisation,' 'thought' and 'thing,' are not truly and wholly the same in any particular world-system.

¹ Not as a particular sound, but as the Thought, I-This-Not.

Of words, the sound AUM is the first, as of letters A is the first. Then comes the *Gāyatrī*¹; and simultaneously with it the *Mahā-vākya*. From these two arise the *Vedas*. As all works, small and great, are first thought of in the mind, and then their methods of performance are planned out, and finally orders are given to the subordinate executors and the workers in detail—such is the mutual relation of the *Gāyatrī* the *Mahā-vākya* and the *Vedās*. The ‘word’ which embodies the proper time and season of the *avaḍhāraṇa*, ideation, which embodies the knowledge that this-and-this fact arises from such-and-such a principle or seed or source, and that this is the appropriate method of bringing about this result and for this reason—this ‘word’ is the *Gāyatrī*. As the ordinary man carries the largest schemes in the mind by means of very small words, signs, symbols—even such is the case with *Mahā-Viṣṇu*. The thought of *Mahā-Viṣṇu* as to each principal method or law of the world-system is embodied in a *Mahā-Vākya*. Hence is it said that the *Gāyatrī* is the mother of the *Veda*, the *Mahā-vākya* the father, and AUM, the root of all, the grandfather of the *Vedas*, wherein

¹The *Gāyatrī* is the ‘chant,’ the sacred *mantra* or prayer and invocation, addressed to the Sun daily by every twice-born man. *Mahā-vākya* is ‘great sentence,’ logion.

the Trinity dwells and whence succession flows forth.

The non-separateness of the *Gāyaṭrī* and the *Mahā-vākyas* has been insisted on everywhere, because of their simultaneity. The distinction between them is the distinction between whole and part. The whole of all thinking is the *Gāyaṭrī*.¹ A *Mahā-vākya* is one portion thereof. The detailed expansion and working out of all these is the *Veḍa*. The *Gāyaṭrī* corresponds to cognition, the *Mahā-vākyas* to desire, the *Veḍas* to action, *i. e.*, to A, M, and U, respectively. Finally, the student obtains the true knowledge of the *Mahā-vākyas* and of the *Gāyaṭrī* only after having studied the *Aṅgas* and the *Upāṅgas*, the 'limbs' and the 'sub-limbs,' which bring out the truths of the *Veḍas*. The six *Aṅgas* are derived by the sub-division of cognition, and action into three each, *i. e.*, by cognition, desire and action; and the six *Upāṅgas* or *Ḍarshanas*, conversely, by the sub-division of cognition, desire and action, by the two, *viz.*, cognition and action. (?)

¹ All this chapter must be more or less hard to follow for the reader who has not had an opportunity of learning what the *Gāyaṭrī* or the *Mahā-vākyas* are. The chapters immediately following after this will help to explain. It may perhaps repay trouble if the reader returns to this chapter after having perused the next one or two.

The end and aim of all this study, which, indeed, is the highest *ṭa p a s*, asceticism, aspiration, austerity, is to realise the summation of the whole of the World-process in AUM, the one partless idea A h a m-Eṭ a ṭ-N a, I-This-Not, which is the World-process and is also the one sole law of all laws governing it; and, after such realisation, to act accordingly, *i.e.*, to create new worlds, new *b r a h m ā ṇ d a s*, new households, small and large, microcosms and macrocosms. The purpose of evolution, the object of the creation of a *b r a h m ā ṇ d a* by an *Īshvara*, is the evolution of new *Īshvaras* and the creation of new *B r a h m ā ṇ d a s*, in endless succession. The father 'makes' the son, and the son another son, endlessly (from the vastest sidereal system to a gnat); and this he does only as the result of attaining the father's knowledge and power of action. In the same way should every *jīva* learn the constitution and manner of building a *b r a h m ā ṇ d a* in order to create another in turn, in endless rotation corresponding with the endlessness of the *Pranava*.

Such is the significance of the *Mahā-vākya*, 'I that am one, may I become many'. And everything follows this law, on all scales, as in the before-mentioned instance of seed and plant, which illustrates the universal pervasiveness of the law of the trinity, too, in the fact that the seed has one sprouting point between two lobes.

And it should be remembered that the mere scale does not matter, for greatness and smallness are essentially relative. The destiny of each atom is to create a *brahmāṇḍa*. *Brahmāṇḍas* like or smaller or larger than ours, held together by a Sun, are present in every atom.¹ *Vishvas*, great world-systems, exist in an atom, and atoms again exist in these *vishvas*. This is the significance of 'many from one;' wherever we see the one we should recognise the many also, and conversely. After securing the ability of, and then actually, creating a *brahmāṇḍa*, the next step is the creation of a *jagat*, then a *vishva*, then a *mahā-vishva* and so on, till the status of *Mahā-Vishṇu* is reached. From this progression it follows that *bandha*, bondage, and *mokṣha*, deliverance (in the sense of, i., restriction by and emancipation from certain *special, definite* kinds of *limitations*, and not of, ii., the universal limitation by the pseudo-abstract *Ētaṭ* or 'This, and the eternal transcendence in consciousness of such universal limitation by the Negation of the This) are both equally 'contingent,' relative. The smaller, emerging from his condition of bondage (within certain narrow limitations) comes out into another condition (which is one of *comparative* absence of

¹ For an excellent commentary on the literal truth of this statement see Fournier's *Two New Worlds* (published in 1908.)

restraint and limitation, because giving a wider range than the previous one, in space and time, but) which has its own limitations again. Thus, then, bondage and freedom are not to be thought of as things radically different. Mahā-Viṣṇu is great and free as compared with an atom of his world-system; but he has his own pleasures and pains and bonds and limitations, in turn. It is true, he knows that all this World-process takes place because of *sva-bhāva*, the 'own-nature,' 'own-being,' of Brahman, and not through his personal power, and so far as he realises this he is truly *mukta*, free, in the technical sense, yet he has to work as if believing in his possession of a personal power, as such work is also a necessary part of the process of 'becoming'. And therefore, from the standpoint of a higher on-looker, he also is but an atom, and in the same plight.¹

¹ This way of putting the matter, it should be noted, deals with only one aspect of the question. It shows that every condition is, *simultaneously*, one of comparative bondage as well as comparative freedom. The other aspect, not immediately relevant to the text here, is that of the mutual and endless succession of bondage and liberation in the same way and sense as, though on a much vaster scale in time and space than, that of physical birth and death.

Therefore the one Universal Self alone should be regarded as the truly Blessed, permeated with AUM; and both *baṇḍha* and *mokṣha* are in reality naught. There should be and is no craving for *mokṣha* left when this is realised, for such realisation itself is *mokṣha*, in the universal sense.

Naught can we say is small, nor call aught great. That which now seems an atom is, in truth, the maker and container of whole worlds. Infinity streams and surges everywhere. This is the highest knowledge, deepest bliss. This is the secret of the sacred books.

No *Vidyā*, no *Veḍa*, the highest this Truth is,
No *Mantra*, no *Yantra*, no fever of strife.

No *Tantra*, no sentence, no sound, and no
language,

No *Yoga*, no *Sāṅkhya*, no order or law—
Ever the Being, the Living, the Blessed,
Beyond all the reach of cognition and sense,
The song of the AUM, and the being of Worlds,
And the one single source of the cosmos around,
Beyond all the senses, yet knowledge itself,
Self-proven, Self-chosen, the Law of the whole.¹

¹ This is an attempt to reproduce, just for the information of the reader, the *metre* of the original *śloka*s; he will, it is hoped, not scrutinise too closely the merits of this and other similar versified reproductions, in this summary, of the metaphysical hymns of the original.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER IV.

THE COMPONENTS OF THE VEDAS. (*Continued.*)

The *Gāyatrī* and the *Mahā-rīkyas*.—Incidental remarks on the three forms of yoga, and on castes and āśhramas.

The study of the *Gāyatrī* comes first. It is 'one-footed,' 'two-footed,' 'three-footed' and 'four-footed,' because the Samsāra is manifested in four ways, cognition, etc., by Mahā-Viṣṇu's ideation. The *Gāyatrī* is as follows: 'That—the Father-Sun's excellent—splendor—of the God—may we contemplate—intelligences—which—our—may inspire'¹. 'That—

¹ In other words: 'May we contemplate, receive, absorb or assimilate the radiant effulgence, the glorious energy, of the divine and all-creating Sun, so it may stir up, quicken, illuminate, inspire and vitalise our intelligences'. The collective 'we' and 'our' are especially worthy of note; each individual prays for the whole of humanity. The statement, at page 92, that the whole of all thinking is *Gāyatrī*, should be considered here. Apart from its symbolical and esoteric interpretations, even its plain word-meaning justifies the statement. All thinking, all research, is searching for relations; and all searching is praying, addressed deliberately or unconsciously to an individual deity or to the All-Self, the One Storehouse of True Omniscience and Omnipotence, whom the individual deity represents to the world-

the Father-Sun's'—this is the first foot. 'Excellent'—is the second, 'splendor—of the God'—is the third. 'May we contemplate—intelligences—which—our—may inspire'—this is the summation and the fourth foot. The first foot is cognition, the second action, the third desire, and the fourth the summation. ¹

According to the rules of the science of *Chhandah*, prosody, verses issue from each letter of the *Gāyatrī*, and they describe the methods on which the various parts of the world evolve, under the dominance of the AUM. Such is the greatness of the *Gāyatrī*. It includes all sciences, being itself the very essence of the ideation of Mahā-Viṣṇu. It is also called the *Sāvitrī* ², because it is the source of all sciences.

system he rules over. Zanonì says in the last chapter of Lytton's instructive novel of that name: "The thoughts of souls that would aspire as mine *are all prayer*." Prayer is asking, wishing, willing, putting oneself in the attitude to receive more fully; hence all effort is prayer, in one sense.

¹ Every Samskr̥t verse has four parts, each called a pāḍa or foot. In English prosody the word has a different sense. The reason for the division and assignment to cognition, etc., is not clear.

² By current Samskr̥t etymology the word means 'of or born from the Savitā, the progenitor, i.e., the Sun.' In current Samskr̥t, the word for 'progenitress' or 'source' would be sa v i t r ī, not sāvitrī.

The *Gāyatrī* is also said to be six-footed and eight-footed, etc., but this is because of the endlessness of number. Ordinarily, in this world, it is four-footed, as said before. Seven *Vyāhṛtis*, 'exclamations,' 'utterances' precede it, being formed by the before-mentioned triple sub-division of each (of the two ?)¹, taken together with the summation. They are Bhūh, Bhuvah, Svah, Mahah, Janah, Ṭapah, Saṭyam. The whole is held together by AUM, as pervading and being the source of all. For this reason, in the exposition of AUM, Brahmā is said to be its ṛṣhi or seer, *Gāyatrī*² its metre, white its color, and utterance at the beginning of every work its use and employment. It is true that all ṛṣhis are the seers of AUM; yet, because of his special connexion with action, Brahmā is said to be its seer especially. The

¹ The reasons for the occurrence of a triplicity everywhere are obvious, but all other numbers may be regarded as arbitrary, *i.e.*, each number is special to one world-system. Ours, as is more than once stated definitely elsewhere in the text, is subject to the dominance of seven. But they are all always based on the three. The worlds or planes to which the *Vyāhṛtis* correspond may also be looked upon as the 'utterances,' 'creations,' 'manifestations' of the creator.

² The name of the metre, as well as of the sacred verse which is in that metre.

Gāyaṭrī is based on and contained in it; hence it is its metre. The color is white, *i.e.*, luminous, for, as has been said, the *Praṇava* is of the nature of light, all-illuminating. It is employed at the commencement of all works because all action is rooted in it, and indeed everything else also is included in it.¹ The word *vinīyoga*, employment, signifies the same thing; *vi* is the *Ātmanā*, *ni* is the relation, *yoga* is the world. That which is joined, combined, *yujyaṭi*,² is *yoga*. Because the trinity of the Self, the Not-Self, and the Negation is one, therefore is it present at the beginning of every work, and in it and after it and all around it, indeed, as well.

The *Vyāhṛti* indicates the particular kind of cognition, desire, action and summation (prayed for by means of the *Gāyaṭrī*, in the case of each class of praying individuals?). The *Gāyaṭrī* conveys knowledge of the totality (in each case). The *Vyāhṛtis* are uttered to mark out each separate (summation). Because the root-facts are three, cognition, etc., the *Vyāhṛtis* usually pronounced with the *Gāyaṭrī* are three, *viz.*, *Bhūh*, *Bhuvah*, and *Svah* (literally, the physical world or the earth, the next higher or astral, and 'heaven' or mental). These and the AUM

¹This will become clearer later on, in the chapter dealing with the science of language and sound or *Vyākaraṇa*, grammar, (Sec. III, ch. xiii.)

²The modern form would be *yujyate*.

always go with the *Gāyaṭrī*; without them, indeed, the name *gāyaṭrī* itself would not be possible, for it means, 'that which sings, *gāyaṇti*, the three, *triṭayam*, cognition, etc., as one, and also protects, *ṭrāṭi*, the total ideation by unifying it in the summation' ¹. The trinity becomes a septenary

¹ In view of other facts, statements of which are scattered all over the book, the text here may be expounded thus: The *Gāyaṭrī* is the embodiment in words of the psychic effort, *i.e.*, effort in and by consciousness or spirit, of the individual *jīva* to put its own consciousness in rapport with the cosmic consciousness; in other words, to put itself in rapport with the Solar Logos, the Logos of its own particular cosmos or world-system, cosmic consciousness here meaning not so much or so directly the Absolute Consciousness or *Brahman*, as the consciousness underlying its own particular world-system, the consciousness of its Solar Logos. The fruit of such rapport, if achieved, is obvious; it is, in degrees varying as the degrees of the perfection of that rapport, the deriving of knowledge and power, inspiration in the fullest sense. But the solar consciousness is concerned, in this world-system, with seven planes, seven layers of being, seven interpenetrating worlds, *Bhūh*, *Bhuvah*, etc., or as they are designated in modern theosophical literature, physical, astral, *rūpa*-mental, etc., these words having a double significance, that is to say meaning (i) various psychical conditions of the existing

also. Hence we have seven *Vyāhṛtis*, with seven ṛṣhis, seven devatās, or gods, and

human being living normally in a physical body, as also (ii) the subtler and subtler grades of matter in which those conditions, though *subjective* or *spiritual* or *conscious* purely, from our physical waking standpoint and not material, are yet *formulated* as *material objects* to a higher. (The full significance of this may appear when the reader has read the rest of the work; it is attempted to be explained at length in *The Science of Peace*, pp. 295, *et seq.*) Now according to the world or layer or plane regarding which the jīva desires knowledge and power by means of his prayer, invocation, meditation, trance, transport, ecstasy, extasis, samādhī, is the *Vyāhṛti* that it pronounces. The human Āryan race, at its present stage, is dominated by intelligence, the fifth principle of theosophical literature, to which, as it is working in the human of to-day, corresponds the Svah world, or the mental plane; hence the Āryan ordinarily ends his utterance of the *Vyāhṛtis* with the third or Svah; he seeks knowledge and power primarily of the nature of intelligence; beyond that he cannot go yet; especially developed jīvas go higher.

It should be remembered that this statement gives us only one aspect of the *Gāyatrī*, only an idea of its general nature and significance. Its secret or technical interpretations and practical uses may be many. Thus, as said in the text itself, each letter of it symbolises a *Mahā-vākya*, a law of nature; and again, the chanting of it in special ways has special results, protective, destructive, creative etc.,

seven metres. Of these seven *k r a m a s*, (orders, successions, rounds, chains, planes or worlds) the *ṛ ṣ h i s* are the *n i y a n t ā r a h*, rulers, controllers, administrators; the *ḍ e v a ṭ ā s* are the maintainers, preservers; and the metres are seven kinds of sounds, words or languages, as the science of words says. The *ṛ ṣ h i s* are Vishvā-miṭṭra, Yamadagni, Bharadvāja, Gautama, Attri, Vasishtha, and Kashyapa. The metres are Gāyatrī, Uṣṇik, Trishtubh, Anuṣṭup, Brhaṭi, Paṅkti and Jagatī. The *ḍ e v a ṭ ā s* are Agni, Vāyu, Āditya, Brhaspati, Varuṇa, Indra, and Vishvé-ḍeva. Such is the arrangement under which work is begun and completed in every *b r a h m ā n d a* of this *s a m s ā r a*.¹

¹ It may be helpful to make a parallel: While a *Vyāhṛti* indicates a world (corresponding with a predominant *b h ū ṭ a*, element, and a class of *p i ṭ ṛ s*); the *ḍ e v a ṭ ā* is its king, law-giver, and storehouse and reserve of protective, defensive and offensive military power; the *ṛ ṣ h i* is the judiciary and executive, the carrier on of the daily administration, the seer, interpreter and applier of the law, acting between king and people; and the *c h h a n ḍ a h*, the language of the law, the code, the statute-book, which prevails in and governs that world, and is the means of relation and communication between all. These three may be regarded as corresponding with desire, action, cognition and summation.

The meaning of the *Vyāhṛtis*, from one standpoint, is this: That which 'becomes' is Bhūh; this is connected with Ātmā. Its development, its combination with samsāra is Bhuvah, i.e., kriyā, action. Svah is desire of the nature of negation; whence the exclamation svā hā that is uttered with every sacrificial offering into the fire, for by fire (or agni-ṭaṭṭva, corresponding with the manas, the intelligence, and the mental plane) is everything called, apprehended, attracted, āhūyaṭe, (to and by the sva, the Self), negation being the means of relation and therefore the cause of growth or evolution; (self-negation, abnegation, self-denial, self-sacrifice is the cause of development in more senses than one). The first is connected with Viṣṇu or A, the second with Brahmā or U, the third with Śaṅkara or M; and the *Gāyaṭrī* with Mahā-Viṣṇu. Such is the *tribhuvanam*, triple-world, that exists in every atom. Self, (Ātmā, that which always moves, aṭaṭi, hence standing here for motion) space and time, which are ever connected with Samsāra, also make it a true *tribhuvanam*.

The other four *Vyāhṛtis* are differentiated out of these three. The 'great' root of the three is the fourth, Mahat. The fifth is Janah; it gives 'birth' to all, hence the name. Tapah is the maintenance, the 'keeping alight,' the 'holding fast' of knowledge; it is a special form of kriyā.

Saṭyam is conjoined to all ; for what is 'true' is immortal, the Self, connected with all. Thus are the seven *Vyāhṛtis* related to *Gāyatrī*.¹

The *Gāyatrī* has twenty-four syllables, through the multiplication of four by six² (?). But in

¹ In theosophical literature, as in Hindū, these seven 'worlds,' named the *Vyāhṛtis*, are related to four out of the five already manifested 'planes' of our universe. Bhūh and Bhuvah are, as said, the physical and astral planes, while Svah is the lower or rūpā-mental ; Mahah is the arūpā-mental, the 'formless' world of abstract ideas ; it is the relatively permanent root, or world of causes, of the *tribhuvanam*, the triple-world, below it ; here is the home of the causal body, the 'higher heaven,' the heaven of the scholar of a high type, of the philosopher, to which belongs the *vijñānamaya-kośha*. The Janah, Tāpah, and Saṭya loka s are on the buddhic plane ; to the first go the highest type of those in whom cognition is predominant ; to the second the highest type of those in whom desire is predominant, the noblest bhakṭas ; to the third the highest type of those in whom action is predominant, the utterly unselfish workers. Beyond these yet again are Brahma-loka, Viṣṇu-loka—Vaikuntha and Goloka, —and Shiva-loka,—Kailāsa—again repeating kriyā, jñāna and icchā. (A. B.)

² It is difficult to say what this expression 'four by six' exactly means. It may mean the quartette of cognition, etc., multiplied by the six *Angas* or

this manner, indeed, by successive multiplications, it is endless, and not limited to twenty-four letters.

Yogīs, siḍḍhas, jñānīs, 'the Self-joined, the perfect, the knowers,' because of their work in the world, have need of portions of the knowledge contained in the *Gāyaṭrī*. And the yogīs alone have the right to use all the seven *Vyāhṛtis*, for according to the growth or stage of knowledge of the jīva is his right. The right to use the three *Vyāhṛtis* belongs to all, for there is nothing apart from the trinity¹.

For this same reason, the action in prāṇāyāma, breath-regulation, is also three-fold: pūraka, inspiration, connected with cognition; kumbhaka, holding (in either deflation or inflation), with kriyā; rechaka, expiration, with the nexus or desire.

Yoga is of three kinds: rājā, lakṣhyā, and hatha. In the practice of the first, we have the restraint or inhibition of the transformations,

Upāṅgas, which, with their summation make up a septenary such as prevails in our world-system. Later on, it is said that the twenty-four letters indicate the twenty-four logia which, it is clearly suggested, are the variations, the various forms, in which the quartette manifests.

¹ And all live in the three worlds, inhabiting each in turn during a life-period, i.e., from birth to birth. (A. B.)

psychoses, changes, states, of the *chitta*, mind, the outward-directed consciousness; this corresponds to Self and cognition. *Hatha-yoga*, dealing with *prāṇāyāma*, corresponds to action and the world. *Lakṣhya-yoga* to the Negation. Each is triple in turn¹. The *Gāyatrī* is prescribed for the *prāṇāyāma* together with the seven *Vyāhṛtis*; therein is the right to all knowledge; and therefore it follows that only for *yogīs* is *prāṇāyāma* fit and proper. For the purposes of ordinary *japa*, meditative repetition, the *Gāyatrī* with three *Vyāhṛtis* is fittest; though, yet again, the only real and effective *japa* is the *japa* of the AUM alone, for the knowledge that comes to those who practice it is indeed the highest

¹ The text is silent as to the triplets under the other two forms of *yoga*, that under *hatha-yoga* being clearly said to consist of the three forms of breath. From one standpoint, it may be possible to regard the three states, mentioned in the *Lyūsa-Bhūṣhya* on the extant *Yoga-Sūtras viz.*, *viveka-khyāti*, *dharma megha* and *kaivalya*, as the three sub-divisions of the *lakṣhya*; and to group the first five 'limbs,' *viz.*, *yama*, etc., as a triplet under *hatha*; the last three falling under *rāja*. It may also be said that under *rāja-yoga* the three are *dhāraṇā*, *dhyāna* and *samādhi* and under *lakṣhya-yoga*, worship, rapture and extasy.

achievement, as is declared everywhere. The essential aim and significance of all this practice of yoga and *Gāyatrī* and AUM is the realisation of the Self, the Not-Self, and the Negation, the creation of new *sam-sāras*, the perfection of the absence of desire in the midst of all actions, and consequent identification with Brahman, for 'to move in all ways, as Brahman does, is to be moveless, as Brahman is'.

(The essential significance of *mokṣha* is the realisation of the relation of Negation between the Self and the Non-Self, and the leading of life as a matter of duty—*i.e.*, the discharge of *debts*, *due* from us to others from out of the past—in accordance with this realisation, within whatever limits of detail, cyclic and organic, our individual consciousness is confined for the time being. This realisation and practice, within larger and larger limits, *brahmāṇḍa*, *jagat*, *viśva*, etc., makes the degrees, the grades, of *technical mukṭi*, as distinguished from the *essential mukṭi*, which may be possessed even by 'a mere shop-keeper' or 'a mere king actively ruling on earth,' as in the classical instances of *Tulādhara* and *Janaka*.)¹

¹ The distinctions made in current *Yoga* works between *kāryā-vimukṭi* and *chitta-vimukṭi*; and in current *Vedānta* works between *kramamukṭi* and *satyomukṭi*, though the terms are

The various *prakāras*, modes, of the *Gāyatrī*, are similar and simultaneous ideations. They are the four *Mahā-vākyas*, great-sentences, logia, one at the root of each *Veḍa* 'I am Brahman,' A h a m—B r a h m—ā s m i, is the source of the *R̥g-Veḍa*, corresponding to cognition. 'That I am thus—why is it so and what for?'—such is the significance¹ of the logion interpreted differently now, seem to hint at the same thing. See also the illustrative story, in the *Bhaviṣhya-Purāṇa*, III., iv., ch. VII., of the Brāhmaṇa Dhātrī-sharmā who became *mukṭa*, for a definite period, in the Solar Logos.

¹The 'significance' of this and the next logion may be expanded thus. The Self *appears*, from the standpoint of the limited and successive, to ask Itself, 'I-am-I, but what am I, am I this and this and this, am I other-than-I, not-I, the many?' and then to say to Itself, 'Let Me try, let Me assume that I am the many, let Me become the many, "May I become the many"'. But in the next step it says, 'How is this possible, in what manner can I be or become the many? I cannot be or become other than I am, anything else than Myself, and there is nothing else than Myself, for I know only Me and nothing else than Me, and what I do not know does not exist, and therefore "there is nothing else." ' (See *The Science of Peace*, chapters vi-vii-viii and p. 143 *et seq.* for an explanation of how this All-consciousness, I-This-Not, is arrived at by the *jīva* and of its essential and all-inclusive significance).

connected with the *Yajur-Veḍa* and action, viz., *Ba h u h-s y ā m*, 'May I become many'. 'There is nothing here verily,' *Na-e v a-a s ṭ i-i h a-i ṭ i-k i ṇ c h a n a*, is the basis of the *Sāma-Veḍa*, of the nature of the nexus, desire; its significance is 'How, in what manner, can I be?' Finally comes the logion of the *Aṭhara-Veḍa* and the totality, viz., *A h a m-E ṭ a ṭ-N a-i ṭ i-ḍ u ṣ ṭ a r a m*, 'I-This-Not, the unpassable'¹; it unifies in itself the other three and explains what is their use, motive, or final cause.

These four logia give birth to the four *Veḍas*. In them, *A h a m*, I, is connected with cognition; *E ṭ a ṭ*, This, refers to *k r i y ā*; and *Na*, Not, to desire as the nexus. This trinity is unpassable, uncrossable, not to be transcended and got beyond, being everywhere and all-inclusive. The conjunction of *A h a m* with *E ṭ a ṭ* is the birth of *S a m s ā r a*; and of *E ṭ a ṭ* with *Na* is its negation or destruction. Therefore *A h a m-E ṭ a ṭ-a s m i*, 'I am This,' and *E ṭ a ṭ-N a-A h a m-a s m i*, 'I am Not This,' are also two *Mahā-vākyas*.

The separateness as well as oneness of these three, the Self, the Not-Self, and the Negation, ought to be thoroughly comprehended.

It is true that ordinarily *Ṭ a ṭ-ṭ v a m-a s i*, 'That art thou,' *A h a m-B r a h m-ā s m i*, 'I

¹ Compare the expression of *The Secret Doctrine*, the 'Ring-pass-not'.

am Brahman,' Sarvam--khalu-idaṁ-Brahma, 'All this verily is Brahman,' and Na-ihā-nānā-astikiñchana, 'There is no many here,' are called the four great sentences. Yet they are such only as means to the primal Logion, I-This-Not. Of these, the first refers to kriyā, wherein is formed the multiplicity of 'thou' and 'I' and 'this' and 'another,' and it is included in the second word of the Logion. The second is the jñāna-mode, included in the first word thereof. The third corresponds to desire wherein all is negated, and is comprehended in the third word. The fourth amounts to the summation.

So far we have had ten great sentences.¹

'I am This'—such only is Samsāra. Herein is the combination of cognition and action; desire also is there. Hence arises the eleventh logion: Saṭyam-jñānam-anantaṁ-Brahma, 'Brahman is truth, knowledge, endless'. Truth is Aham; knowledge is Eṭaṭ; endless is desire; and the three together are Brahman. By the conjunction of the Ātman with the Eṭaṭ arises cognition; knowledge is not possible while

¹It is not easy to make out the ten. Even if slight verbal differences are reckoned, then too Aham-Brahm-āsmi occurs intact twice. Perhaps Aham-Eṭaṭ-Na is regarded as distinct from Aham-Eṭaṭ-Na-iṭi-ḍuṣṭaram. (?)

there is no conjunction of the two; that conjunction itself, indeed, is knowledge.

That which is knowledge is the truth, and the truth is also the knowledge, and the two together are also the endless.

Again, in the combination of A h a m, E ṭ a ṭ and N a, a singleness is super-imposed on the whole by the verb-action 'am'¹; the I is the This, the This is the Not, and that Not again is the I—such is the full significance of the combination. From this results the twelfth *Mahā-vākya*, Eka h-Aham-Ba h-u-syām, 'May the one I become many'. Here I corresponds with the one, This with the many; 'may become,' with the Negation. The real inner meaning of this is the logion 'May I not become this' (for I, the one, cannot really become the many) which only declares in another form the sense of 'I-This-Not-am.'

These are the twelve *Mahā-vākyas*. But the chief ones are the four above-mentioned; and even amongst them, the veriest root of all is 'I-This-Not'. Sometimes five main logiā are spoken

¹ On the great value, the extremely illuminative significance, of translating all the ultimate world-problems from terms of the third person into terms of the second and first persons, and finally into the terms of the first person only, from terms of he, she, it, that, there, is, etc., into those of you, I, this, here, and finally of I, this, am, etc. see *The Science of Peace*, pp. 92, 93.

of, by counting 'I am This' and 'I am Not This' as one and treating that as the fifth.

The first mode of Mahā-Viṣṇu's ideation refers to jñāna; hence Aham. In the utterance of Aham we find only pure knowledge, the own nature of the Self. The second, referring to action, is Eṭaṭ. In the utterance of Eṭaṭ are understood 'That thou art' etc. This mutually opposed multiplicity that appears all around us, of thou, I, he, other, this, what, that, etc.—this is Samsāra. Manyness is declared of this only. And as descriptive of the various aspects and ways of conjunction of Eṭaṭ with Aham, are used the words cognition, recollection, retention, doing, causing, work or effect or action, actor, motive, engagement, attraction, etc. On the other hand, by the conjunction of Aham with Eṭaṭ are said to arise negation, destruction, prohibition, conation or volition, desire, will, hope, expectation of return, 'evil hope' or despair, etc. All this is understood in the three words 'I-This-Not.' All sciences expound but these, and all sciences are necessary to understand their full significance. Asmi, am, is but another form of the AUM.

Because of the affirmation as well as negation involved in the ordinance 'This (is) Not,' there arises the opposition or contradiction that we see in the Samsāra. Separately, I is Not, This is

Not, Not is Not. When the I combines with This-Not-am, then the fruit of the Negation (i.e., mukṭi) is obtained.

Thus, then, the Logion related to the summation is Aham-Eṭaṭ-Na; and there are three other logia, severally related to cognition, desire and action. By the division of the fourth or primal Logion into cognition and action (Aham-Eṭaṭ), and into action and desire (Eṭaṭ-Na), we have the fifth. By further sub-division of these in the way of changes of order of the factors, as, e. g., the summation of cognition, desire and action; or of desire, action and cognition; and so on, we have twelve. By further permutations we obtain twenty-four, which may be regarded as the more important ones. They are indicated by the twenty-four letters of the *Gāyatrī*. These should be meditated on for finding out the separate method or law of the World-process indicated by each; above them are the twelve; above them the four; and finally the one Logion which is the fount and source of them all.

There are endless others besides, produced by the endless permutations and combinations of Aham-Eṭaṭ-Na, and because of which is Aham-Eṭaṭ-Na declared to be 'impossible to pass beyond.' That is impossible to pass, the permutations and combinations of which are

beyond counting. On the other hand, from the point of view of the inner relativity and similarity or analogy, all is easy of comprehension; that is to say, if we realise that all this seemingly overpowering endlessness of the object-world is *relative* and *caused* by the endlessness of only our own consciousness, our Self, then the whole of the World-process becomes simple and easy to grasp, in one act of consciousness, at once. In the supreme idea, I-This-Not, there is no relativity; it is the Absolute that transcends all, includes all, pervades all, while separate and distinct from everything at the same time. By means of and as comprehended in this Law of laws, this great Logion, should the whole of Samsāra be viewed, in order that it may be comprehended truly, for in each individual atom is present this trinity, and nothing else than this trinity, of the Self, the Not-Self, and the Negation.

The four great logia have been promulgated by Mahā-Viṣṇu; they represent his ideation of the methods of creation. The other logia have been promulgated by Viṣṇu, Brahmā and Shiva, and are also ideations of methods. Later on, in the order of their ideation, *i.e.*, of the ideation of the *Mahā-vākyas*, the detailed method of the coming forth, the becoming, of Samsāra was shown; and that was the *Veda*.

'I-This,' 'This-Not-I,' 'Not-This-I,' 'Not-I-This,' 'I-Not-This'—such combinations make *Samsāra*. Space, time and substance¹ appear here. 'I-This' is time; for the conjunction and disjunction of *Eṭaṭ* with *Aham* is successive; and time is nothing but sequence, the succession of events, the birth and death of things. The conjunction itself (*simultaneous* as it is with negation and disjunction) is transcendental; but definite succession appears therein (in dealing

¹ Normally, the third of this triplet would be 'motion'. For the special purposes of the occasion, it is customary, in the old books, to replace any one of such a series by a corresponding item of any corresponding series. To the alert student, such at first sight perplexing 'shiftings,' become, by and by, clues to an indefinite expansion of 'scientific' knowledge, by giving 'points of contact' between different series, from which 'similarity in diversity' may be traced and analogies and correspondences established. The old *Upaniṣads*, scriptural writings generally, and aphorisms, *Bhāṣyas*, and *Tantra*-works have to be studied with this rule in mind. This method has been adopted inevitably for making the work of teaching and learning briefer—as in the case of mathematical symbols. The substitution of substance for motion will become intelligible from the consideration that, from certain standpoints, motion as well as substance correspond with the *M* of the *Praṇava*.

with the many of the Eṭaṭ).¹ 'I-This' and 'This-I' are mutually dependent as well as independent. 'I-This' is the beginning. 'This-I' is the middle. 'I-ness in This' is space. 'This-Not' is substance. 'Not-This-I' is the end. 'This-Not-I,' is the endless. 'I-This-Not,' is the beginningless. 'I-Not-This,' is the beginning. In this manner does one sentence explain all things². The permutations of this one Logion embodied in the AUM give rise to all activity, which indeed is nothing else than the endless and beginningless transmutations of A into U, of U into A, of both into M, and *vice versa*.

¹ In other words, the conjunction itself, from the transcendental point of view, is *simultaneous* with the disjunction. I-This and (I-)Not-This are uttered simultaneously *out of time*, but *in time* they follow sequentially. (E. H. Bellairs.)

² Unfortunately very often not to the present-day reader so far as any particular details are concerned! If he is earnest and diligent however, he will not fail to catch some glimpse of the significance of each permutation even with reference to any particular detail. This glimpse is, it should be noted, slightly easier to catch in the original Samskr̥t than in the English translations, for the 'construction' of and in the two languages is different, and the same, that is, equivalent, words, if arranged in the same order, convey different effects in the different languages.

This combination of I and This is the only and the supreme m ā y ā or illusion. Herein appear space, time, substance, transformation, non-transformation, evolution, beginning, end, middle, order, disorder, reconciliation, transcendence, non-transcendence, comprehension, existence, non-existence, illusion, realisation, oblivion, imagination, appearing, disappearing, becoming, etc. And hence is it said that there is nothing at all in the I taken separately by itself; though indeed such separateness is not possible. It is true the teaching is: Pass out of Samsāra and behold the Ātman. But it means only this *viz.*, See not only the This but also the I and the Not, for without these two the Eṭaṭ cannot appear, indeed even the very word 'appear' could not be uttered. Passing out of Samsāra consists in beholding it *under qualification by* I and Not.¹ So the Self too ought to be seen only as qualified by the Not-Self and the Not. By itself, Aham is not or nothing, Eṭaṭ is not, and Not is not, also.

It is true that we meet with such expressions as 'I am,' 'This is,' 'This is not,' 'I am not,' etc.

¹It may be said that Samsāra is transcended when the Aham—which had identified itself with the Samsāra and had acted as if it were the Samsāra—withdraws into itself and says: "I am not This, I am I." Then Samsāra loses its binding force and is seen as the Not-I. (A.B.)

wherein I and This are found separate, still on analysis we find that they are both there and as one. The I cannot stand for a moment without the This, nor is the This anything without the I. When a This is mentioned separately, or as separate, in appearance, even then there is an implicit reference to another I (as *en-soul-ing*, *en-liven-ing*, that This, and also to another This as *en-form-ing*, *en-sheath-ing*, the previous I)¹. Thus then A h a m - E ṭ a ṭ - N a is ever one. In the science of language, for instance, we see that though each letter exists separately, still it is only when they combine together that they fulfil their purpose of forming words possessed of significance ; otherwise they remain lifeless. In this same way the trinity in the primal Logion has a unity of meaning. Indeed, so pervasive is this tri-unity that there is a trinity in each of the words A h a m, E ṭ a ṭ and N a . A h a m is made up of three letters ; A is the Self, h a is the world, m is that which is beyond both and connects both. E ṭ a ṭ is similar ; E is the Self, ṭ a is the world, and ṭ

¹ This sentence seems to refer to the fact that however much 'inwards' we go, whenever we think we have separated the I, as our inner self, from the body, as our outer sheath, we still find this inner I only as a subtler body, made of subtler matter, body within body, layer after layer, plane after plane. See *The Science of Peace*, p. 273 et seq.

(otherwise d) is the third or Negation. The N a being included in the Eṭ a ṭ, there is no clear expression of trinity therein; yet even there, according to the rules of the being or constitution of letters, v a ṇ a s a ṭ ṭ ā, (?), n a is made up of a, ñ, and m. There is a similar trinity in every letter whatsoever.

In this fact we find the explanation and justification of the declaration 'I am (or is) Brahman,' viz., that the Aham is also a trinity; otherwise, without the presence of the trinity therein, the identity of Aham with Brahman were impossible.

Thus understanding the significance of the Logion, the jīva comprehends the transcendent nature of all things. Without such understanding mokṣha is not possible. With this knowledge, mokṣha is gained, and it is seen that 'This-Not-I,' 'Not-I-This' and 'I-This' constitute the essence of all kriyā or action implying creation, destruction and preservation¹; and then only does the creation of a new

¹ We may endeavor to understand the significance of this statement somewhat in this fashion: 'I-am-This' is the birth of the I into the This, and the manifestation, the coming into existence, of the This, of an organism, infinitesimal or nebula-vast, by means of the borrowed being of the Self; it is creation. 'Not-I-but-only-This,' is the deeper and deeper mergence of the spirit into matter, it is the

brahmāṇḍa and the due regulation of life in the āśhramas become possible and proper.

All the dharma, the duty, of all the castes and all the life-stages is thus included in the *Pranava*. Aham is brahmacharya; he alone who knows the I as the basis and support of all is the brahmachāri. 'I-This' is the household, wherein the process of the world is carried on by the conjunction of the I and the This, and by the constant giving to the This-es, i.e., other-I's, other selves, of what is gained (out of the one I) by the I's, the selves. 'This-Not' is the forest life wherein the nothingness of the This is realised. Finally

nourishment, evolution and further confirmation of the sheath of the soul; it is the consolidation of the manifesting world; it is maintenance and growth and preservation. 'Not-This-but-only-I,' is the withdrawing of the Self away from matter towards and into Itself; it is the gradual decay and dissolution of the outer body by the retirement of the consciousness which vivified it and held it together; it is the re-absorption, the pralaya, the death and destruction of the world-system, microcosm or macrocosm. This note should be read in connexion with the previous notes, at pp. 22 and 117 and may then help to show that the ringing of changes on the Logion with alterations of emphasis and order of the words brings out new and important meanings, 'methods' and 'laws of nature.'

‘This-Not-I’ is *sannyāsa*, wherein is gained the full knowledge that the This is the I and the I is the This and that apart from the This the I is Nothing, or, in other words, that the This alone is Nothing, and the I alone is Nothing, and that only the combination of the three in one is the Truth and the whole Truth.

So, too, with the castes.¹ Aham-Eṭaṭ-Na—this full knowledge makes the *brāhmaṇa*. ‘I-This’—this much knowledge only is the mark of the *kṣhāṭṭriya*, viz., that the eṭaṭ or ‘this’ world is protected by aham or ‘me’ alone, and that this protection is the duty of aham, or myself. ‘This-Not’ constitutes the *vaishya*; he knows that this world is nothing and by that knowledge controls, *vashīkaroṭi*, his senses. ‘I-Not’ makes the *shūdra*; he forbids all egoism to himself and knows that all that really is is the true I, the

¹ *Brāhmaṇa* means ‘the knower of Brahman,’ the priest, the teacher, the scientist, the literary worker, the educator; *kṣhāṭṭriya*, ‘the protector from wounds’ the soldier, administrator, officer, ruler; *vaishya*, ‘the appropriator and distributor, or pervador and provider,’ the business man, the merchant, the agriculturist, the cattle-owner; *shūdra*, ‘the remover or driver away of care and sorrow,’ the thoughtless, unthinking server, himself free of care, the servant and laborer. See note at pp. 50-51 *supra*.

one Self, and thus performs his selfless work of serving all beings. Hence the saying that, by following the *ḍharma* or duty of *varṇa* or caste and *āshrama* or life-stage, man attains to the knowledge of Brahman.

In whom this knowledge of Aham-Eṭat-Na arises, for him is the joy of *mokṣha*. He who knoweth this, knoweth Brahman; he verily becometh Brahman. He knoweth the essence of his own Self, he knoweth all as him-Self. This is the sacred hearing, this is the sacred thinking, this is the sacred meditating, *śhravāṇa*, *manana* and *nīḍhy-āśana*¹; this is memory, this is *yoga*, this is the whole of action. He who knoweth this, he alone is the performer of duty, he is liberated, he is the true *brāhmaṇa*; he knoweth himself as dwelling in all, as embracing all, as being all.

Achieved by the AUM, the ever Free,
Yet ever Void of freedom, Bound in bonds,
Devoid of *yoga*, One eternally,
And birth and union and death in one,
The Self, the Essence and Prime Truth of all,
The This, the ever-shifting scene spread round,
The Not, negating yet affirming all;
The Atom, yet pervading all the worlds,

¹ This is the spelling in the text, not the modern *nīḍhyāśana*.

The One, and yet the Many, G u ṇ a-less,
Yet source of all the g u ṇ a s ever known,
The Secret of all secrets, the One Source
Of all Self-posed appearances of Self,
Self-proven, Formless, Formed of Itself,
B r a h m a n, Supreme Necessity of all.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER V.

THE ṚG-VEDA.

The *Vedas*.—The *Ṛg-Veda*.—The nature of its contents.

The World-process is said to be *tri-guṇa* in its nature; the three *guṇas* or attributes being *saṭṭva*, *rajas*, and *ṭamas*. *Saṭṭva* is cognition; *rajas*, action; *ṭamas*, desire; the summation of the three is the fourth (*viz.*, life or consciousness). The birth, maintenance, and death of *sāṭṭvikas*, *i.e.*, all things or objects in which the *saṭṭva*-attribute predominates, and their fruits are described in the *Ṛk*; the origin and activities etc., of the *rājasas*, in the *Yajuh*; of the *ṭāmasas*, in the *Sāma*; the summation of the three, the accomplishment of their conjunction, the connexion of cause and effect, and the relation of all things whatsoever to each other—all this is explained in the *Aṭharva*.

It is said sometimes that the *Ṛk* is for the accomplishment of *karma* or action, and the *Yajuh* and the *Sāma* for that of *jñāna* or knowledge. But the main interest of the *Ṛk* is *jñāna*, and it is 'for the accomplishment of *karma*' only because *jñāna* is necessary to

karma. So the *Yajuh* and the *Sāma*, dealing with karma (and *ichchhā*) mainly, give to *jñāna* its proper scope and purpose by such treatment of karma, action being the very fruition of knowledge (through desire).

Brahmacharya is realised by means of the *Rk*; gārhasṭhya of the *Yajuh*; vānaprastha of the *Sāma*; and sannyāsa of the *Aṭharva*. Thus do the four āśramas correspond to the four *Veḍas*.

Within each *Veḍa* there is again a similar subdivision according to this law of four. In the *Rk*, *jñāna* is prevailingly combined with each of the four. Hence it has sixteen mandalas, 'circles,' chapters or sections. Strictly, indeed, there are known to be twenty-four mandalas by rule (?); but eight are included in the *saṁāhāra*, summation, as connected with *ichchhā*(?); and so only sixteen are mentioned. All knowledge whatsoever in respect of earth, water, air, fire, and ākāśha, and time, space, and motion, is to be found in the *Rk*. It is true that sacrifices, etc., are possible with the mantras of the *Rk*; but this does not disprove the fact that their main purpose is cognitional. Otherwise indeed specification were impossible, for cognition exists everywhere, and action exists everywhere, and desire exists everywhere and

always also; and there is no cognition without action, and no action without it either, and neither of the two others without the other two, for the aggregate of three is Samsāra.

The name *tri-bhuvanam*, the triple-world, follows the *trayī*, the triple-*Veḍa*.

The ordinary teaching is that *two vidyās*, viz., *aparā* and *parā*, lower and higher, nearer and farther, concrete and abstract, should be acquired. But from one point of view the two make but one. *Parā* is knowledge merely; *aparā* is that knowledge combined with, put into, action or practice. In terms of the Logion, 'I' is the *parā-vidyā*; 'I-This' is the *aparā*; 'I-This-Not' is beyond both, it is the *mahā-vidyā*, 'the great science.' The three correspond respectively to A, U and M. The totality of them all is the *paramā* or supreme *vidyā*, which is the bestower of *mukṭi*, and indeed is itself *mukṭi*, 'ever intent on the good of all.'

The whole of this *vidyā* is expounded in the sixteen *mandalās* of the *Rk*, and therefore is it called the *mahā-mandalā*, etc. These sixteen *mandalās* expound the *Aham* while the other eight deal with the *samāhāra* which is included in *kriyā* (?) as said before. The *Rk* is therefore also called the *Viṣṇu-samhitā*. The first *manṭra* of the first *mandala* thereof indicates its concern with cognition:

Agnim-Idē-purohiṭam, etc. In agni, A means Aham, g is the Eṭat, and ni the Negation. The form of that agni is light, luminosity. It is true that light is not possible without darkness; but darkness is also inclusively declared here by the word light. Darkness is nothing different or apart from light. As between I and This, so between light and darkness, there is no separateness, nor any precedence and succedence. 'Agni whose nature is light, the Truth of Brahman, that we would know'—such is the meaning of the manṭra. It indicates enquiry after Brahman, knowledge of which is necessary, for without that knowledge no karma is possible. Having learnt the luminous nature of agni we shall gain 'the Immortal God of sacrifice,' yajñasya-devam-ṛtviṣam. This is the 'chief object or motive,' raṭnaḍhāṭamam. The whole work of this agni, viz., all knowledge, is declared in the Rk, whereby the jīva obtains 'the first,' purohiṭam, i.e., the truth of Brahman.¹

¹ The agni-tatṭva is predominant on the mental or Svah plane; also the etymological explanation of the word, according to *Nirukṭa* agre agryam nayaṭi 'that (viz., intelligence, which leads on, in front, the good or high-aspiring jīva to That which is before all, the Best.' It is for this reason that the prevailing 'deity' of the Āryan Race i.e.,

Thus is the whole of the *R̥g-VeĀda* concerned with cognition. "This is born from this; this is destroyed by this; this stands here; this is the time for this; this the place; this is the sub-division of that; the unity and not separateness of the parts in the whole; the cause of the appearance of separateness; considerations of manyness and non-manyness; the necessity of the two; that from which all beings have and shall come forth, that 'becoming' which is the basis of and is the World-process; that from which or on or because of which the Self stands forth or manifests; the laws under which it is converted and perverted, proverted and inverted"—all this knowledge is and is in the *R̥g-VeĀda*. Whatever element of cognition exists in action or desire or summation, and the manner in which it intertwines with the other elements, of desire and action; also all that is needed for the understanding of the A h a m and the E ṭ a ṭ and whatever is included in both and in the Negation, and also in the logion Not-This-I—all this knowledge, contained in the *Mahā-vākyas* which are the ideation of Mahā-Viṣṇu, is expounded here with its motives, necessity and contingency.

the fifth root-race and sub-races, (whose main purpose is to develope the 'fifth principle' or intelligence, *manas*) is agni in some form or other, light, fire, the Sun, glory, radiance, lightning, etc.

(In other words : the causes of the origins and destructions of all things ; the proper place of each in the World-process ; the spatial and temporal extents of all cycles ; the growth of individuals out of species and genera, i. e., differentiation, the gradual multiplication of objects by sub-divisions, or embodiment of archetypes and types into concrete individuals ; the growth of the heterogeneous out of the homogeneous ; and, again, involution, the return of the heterogeneous into the homogeneous, the constant unification of many-seeming things ; briefly, the whole of ' becoming ' wherein the Self appears to undergo transformations of all possible kinds, to become changed into its very opposite and then to return to its own primal form, to now follow the path of pursuit and now of renunciation—the whole of this is described in the *R̥g-Veḍa*, and the element of cognition is particularly traced and described in all its ramifications through all desires and actions.)

(It may be asked why jñāna is thus put first by identifying it with the *R̥g-Veḍa*, the first-mentioned of the *Veḍas*.) Ordinarily, *kriyā* is mentioned everywhere as first ; *Brahmā*, *Viṣṇu* and *Shiva*—such is the usual order of mention ? The answer is that this is so merely because *kriyā* only is first *seen* ; only action *appears* visibly everywhere. Indeed, appearance is *kriyā*. Therefore is *Brahmā* mentioned

first. Otherwise, indeed, Mahā-Viṣṇu, Viṣṇu, Brahmā, Shiva,¹ is the proper order. (But, from the transcendental standpoint, the order really does not matter). The AUM includes all simultaneously and all permutations of all also, and priority and posteriority are verily nothing. In order that there may be priority and posteriority, there must be separateness; and cognition, desire and action are truly not separate but always coexistently correlated in a constant summation. The appearance of separateness gives rise to the appearance of succession, hence the mention of cognition as first, etc.

¹ Taking the order in consciousness, *viz.*, cognition, desire and action, one would say that the order should be (Mahā-Viṣṇu), Viṣṇu, Shiva, Brahmā, which, being rotated, will give the current order also, thus: (Viṣṇu, Shiva) Brahmā, Viṣṇu, Shiva, (Brahmā) etc. But as the reader proceeds further he will see, as has been already stated in a previous note, that from different standpoints different orders appear to prevail, each having its own significance, though it is not always easy to see that significance. Thus, from the standpoint of manifestation as embodied in the three facts of creation, preservation, and destruction, or birth, life and death, it is obvious that the proper order is Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Shiva or saṭ, chit and ānaṇḍa. Again from the standpoint of the working of consciousness in the individual as shown in the three facts of cognition,

Thus, then, is the Truth of Brahman expounded in the *Rg-Veḍa*. This is the mahāvīḍyā. By the I, the This; by the This, the I; the I in the This; the This in the I; such is the nature of knowledge or cognition. Indeed it is only the conjunction of Aham and Eṭaṭ that is spoken of as cognition. Hence is it said that the *Rg-Veḍa* guides memory, forgetfulness and expectation. Therefore also is it said: Behold the Ātman by the *Rg-Veḍa*; the Ātman

desire and action, the proper order becomes Viṣṇu, Shiva and Brahmā. From a third standpoint, that of the 'object' of conscious life, we note that it is first cognised, then grasped and then yields pleasure or pain as the case may be, and this gives us the order of the attributes of the Not-Self, saṭṭva, rajas, and tamas or Viṣṇu, Brahmā and Shiva, i.e., the order followed in the Purāṇic statement that Brahmā was born from Viṣṇu, and Rudra or Shiva from Brahmā. To a fourth view, that of a concrete portion of the Not-Self, regarded more as an independent something having an existence of its own and less as an object of enjoyment, the substantiality of the thing is most and first apparent, then its qualities in detail, then its movements, and so we have dṛavya, guṇa and karma, or Shiva, Viṣṇu and Brahmā. The why of each particular order is matter for further metaphysical cogitation; the rule of reversal in reflexion will probably explain much.

beholds the Ā t m ā. So should the *Ṛg-Veḍa* be understood as embodying all knowledge—knowledge bound up with action, desire, and summation, indispensable everywhere, pervading all, of the very nature of the all, the whole law of all procession, expounded in twenty-four m a n d a - l a s, bestower of all wishes, the accomplisher of everything.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER VI.—Sub-Section (i).

THE YAJUR-VEĀ.

The *Yajur-Veḍa*.—The nature of its contents.—The nature of kriyā.—The relation of action to mokṣha.—The various kinds of mokṣha.

The *Yajur-Veḍa*, promulgated by Brahmā, is concerned with action. All the laws and methods of all actions whatsoever, from the origin to the dissolution of a world; the working of causes; the connexion of cause and effect, of actor and cause; the relations of actor, cause, effect and motive, with all of which every action is always conjoined; the necessity of all these—whatever, briefly, is included in U, the Eṭaṭ-factor of the Logion, that makes the contents of the *Yajuh*.

Thus, we hear: ‘From ākāśha was born vāyu, air; from vāyu, agni, fire; from agni, āpah, water; from āpah, pṛthvī, earth; from pṛthvī, oṣhaḍhī, herbs; from oṣhaḍhī, anna, food or corn; from anna, reṭas, seed, germ-sperm; and from reṭas, all else’. Such is the course of procession, samśaraṇa or evolution. (In other words, from the elemental and mineral kingdoms arose the vegetable, and out of the latter, the animal kingdom).¹ Now the

¹ Or, in still later though as yet more unsettled and doubtful language, out of the primary elements

cause of the birth of vāyu from ākāśha, and of the origin of everything else successively, may be learnt from the *Yajuh*.

The essence of *kriyā* is the 'existence' of the *Ētaṭ* in the I; first the identification, 'I am This, and This, and This,' and again the separation, '(I am) Not This, nor This, nor This, etc.' It appears as the birth, preservation and dissolution of everything. These three are mutually cause and effect. Without any one of these the others are impossible. And hence they are always changing places, *i.e.*, may be described in terms of each other. Death is also but a birth, for everything is indestructible and only changes form, so that death is the birth, the taking on of, a new form, even as birth is the death of an old form. Maintenance is also birth, in a similar way; for it depends on birth, and birth is momentary, so that maintenance is a continuous series of births.

In *kriyā* also, as in *jñāna*, by combinations with *jñāna* etc., there arise twenty-four kinds.¹

The essence and truth of *kāma*, active desire, creative love, is also to be found here, in the *Yajur-veḍa*, by the combination, *samparivar-*

was born the vegetable bacterial cell and out of that the animal cell or protozoon.

¹ See p. 126 *supra*.

ṭana (?), of jñāna (with kriyā?, because of kriyā's coupling with jñāna?).

Thus are birth, maintenance and death and their summation all included here, and each being sub-divided into ten (?) we have the forty chapters of the *Yajuh*.

In each atom do we observe incessant kriyā; it is the one means of accomplishing anything and everything. Hence it is necessary to study the nature of action as connected with desire, cognition and the summation.

Even after attaining mokṣha, work has to be done. From the point of view of transcendence and endlessness, none is bound and none free. True, it is said that such and such action should be done for the sake of mokṣha¹ (the implication being that after mokṣha there is no more action to do). But this (in the outer sense) refers only to some particular condition from which specially is mokṣha or freedom to be gained. The inner significance of the counsel is that action should be performed always and in such a manner that universal mokṣha, eternal bliss, may be enjoyed always. To know that this is so is itself mokṣha; it is itself bliss. This constant restlessness and trouble of mind that we suffer from, viz., if I do so, such will be the result, I have omitted to do this, I am doing this, I have done this, etc.,—to enable

¹ See *Bhagavad-Gītā*, iii, 19, 20.

jīvas to escape from this constant harassment is the one aim of all counsel. All is to happen, all will be done, and all will result therefrom, I have done everything, I am doing everything, all has been and is being and will be accomplished by me, all is necessary, all is certain, nothing is done by the limited me or thee or another, I and thou and another are nothing, what thou art that same am I and another is the same too, all is done by all—this realisation itself is mokṣha and bliss.

Thus, then, action, motion or movement, is a transcendental fact belonging to all time, and mokṣha is not something separate by itself which may be left behind after eliminating all other things. It is rather an all-pervading fact, immanent and included and concealed inseparably within the process of the world, stretching everywhere, in all ways and in all time.

So long as the jīva does not attain universality, so long as it does not realise its own universality, the identity of its individual with the universal consciousness, so long it does not attain contentment; and so long as it does not attain contentment it cannot become free from joy and sorrow. It may be said that universality is something transcendent and beyond time, and hence the *attainment* of such peace and contentment, within time, at some time, is im-

possible. But even this knowledge itself is based on contentment (*i.e.*, the impossibility of contentment *within* time is not realised till the contentment *beyond* time has been touched, felt, sensed, by the self turning inwards and contrasting its own *ever-abiding* universality with the limitedness of all particulars).

One hears it said: 'This man is content; he is at rest; he has ceased from action; his business is finished; his work is done'. The meaning of contentment here is but this, *viz.*, that that *jīva* possesses the knowledge that this World-process is endless and beginningless, past knowing (in completeness of details) and yet not past knowing (in all-comprehensiveness of universal law); that there is no real gain or loss, no honor or dishonor, nothing attained or unattained; that all that occurs is predestined from and for all time. Ceasing from action, again, is but ceasing from the belief that the result, the fruit, of action is for me or thee or another. Otherwise, indeed, action, motion, is a ceaseless fact.¹

¹In other words, whatever *appearance* of truth there is in the remark that is made from time to time by an individual as regards another individual, 'This man is content, is at rest, has retired from the worry and bother of incessant activity, (which is inseparable from the *personal* feeling), *i.e.*, has nothing *more* to do, has achieved the end he had set before himself for the time,' is in reality a *reflexion*, in the limited, of the real

Hence even after mokṣha, the performance of paramārtha-work, the acts of duty, remains of necessity; and thus it comes about that jīva-n-mukṭas become the regulators, guides and hierarchs of world-systems.

The expression, jīviṭa-mukṭa¹ or jīva-n-mukṭa, the 'living-free,' implies a specific kind of mukṭi, and also the existence of non-jīviṭa-mukṭas. A jīviṭa-mukṭa is he who knows Brahman in all its tri-unity; whereas one may be a mukṭa who knows even but one of the three factors of the Absolute. Thus he who knows, i.e., fully believes that the Samsāra, the World-process, is eternal and must always be kept up, that we have nothing to do with anything else, that there is no Ātmā and nothing like a nexus, between Self and Not-Self—even such a jīva, knowing the U only, is also called mukṭa, free from doubt in his own way. Again, he who declares that Brahman is identical exclusively with pure Negation only, devoid of all and everything, he

truth of the universal, that the Self is ever blissful, having *nothing* to do, at any time, being always Full and Complete and Wantless.

¹ Current Samskr̥t philosophical literature does not recognise the distinctions which follow in the text; it only distinguishes the jīva-n-mukṭa, 'one who is free while still in the body,' and viḍeha-mukṭa, the same after the body has fallen away.

also is a mukṭa and his technical designation is vimukṭa; for even though he does not know the element of Eṭaṭ or Samsāra, still he knows it by implication, because he knows the nexus, even though he knows that nexus as the most important; and he also is free from doubt in his own way, having, for the time being, resolved all into Nothing. Finally, he who knows only this, viz., that I am or is Brahman, that the Āṭmā alone is Brahman, and the Anāṭmā nothing—he also is a mukṭa for similar reasons. But the non-recognition of the fact that the Anāṭmā cannot stand without the Āṭmā is the deficiency, the lack of completeness of knowledge (in all these cases, which lack ultimately creates doubts again and destroys the insufficiently grounded freedom therefrom). Free from all such defect is the triune unity-in-separateness of the Self, the Not-Self and the Negation, and he who knows this is the jīviṭa-mukṭa.

It may be questioned how, when the three are declared to be inseparable and triune, is it possible to know any one of them singly and by itself and attain mokṣha thereby. The answer is that because knowledge falls within the law of succession, this appearance of successive knowledge of one only at a time does take place as a fact; and as all the trinity is Brahman, the knowledge of any one may

also not improperly be said to be knowledge of Brahman and so to constitute mokṣha. The consequence is that all jīvas may be regarded as baḍḍha, bound, all as mukṭa, free, all as siḍḍha, perfect, indifferently and simultaneously¹.

Like the distinctions of jīviṭa-mukṭa, vimukṭa, and mukṭa, there are other dis-

¹ This is only another illustration and application of the fact and law of the continuum, the inseparability, of all things and conditions. The ordinary intelligence, 'understanding' as it is called by some of the German philosophers, corresponding to the manas of the *Nyāya* instinctively endeavors to separate, to analyse and divide and distinguish, to grasp only one thing at a time, to cut off objects from each other as with a razor. But this is impossible; there is no such division and separation in the World-process; it is emphatically a continuum; and the buddhi, the reason, recognises this higher fact and synthesises accordingly. The lower mind wishes to tear apart the abstract and the concrete, universal and particular, back and front; it is the very principium of the particular, the concrete, the separate; it is the false self, the self as identified with a this; its one yearning and craving and straining is to delimit, to define, to impatiently and discontentedly and incessantly ask: 'But *what is* the universal, the abstract, the pure Self? I do not recognise what it is; give me something tangible; what you say is mere words,

tinctions too, *e.g.*; mahātmā, sādhu, yogī, yogeshvara, śānta, praviṣṭa, siḍḍha, parama-siḍḍha, etc. These appellations mark definite stages of attainment in an indefinitely progressive series, according to the grade of knowledge, and of cessation from ahaṅkāra, *i.e.*, the personal feeling of initia-

mere air!' It will not see that the universal, the abstract, the pure Self cannot be explained to it in terms of the senses, as 'It is this that you can see and touch and taste, etc.,' without losing its character of universality and abstractness. The reason recognises that such pure Self *is*, as a fact and as a law, indeed as *the* fact of all facts and *the* law of all laws, as the very principle of connexion between all discrete facts; it recognises that universality is present, immanent, in all 'particulars,' that without this inaudible, intangible, invisible, untasteable, unsmellable element of continuity, the audible, the tangible, the visible, the tasteable, the smellable would have no mutual connexion, no coherence, no meaning; it sees that this whole everlasting World-process itself is one continuous, ever-renewed and ever-futile effort to define the abstract Self in terms of the concrete Not-Self. If we thoroughly realise this fact, then such paradoxical-looking statements of the *Praṇava-vāda*,—and they are very frequent— as that all *jīvas* are bound as well as free, that freedom may be gained by realising only one even of the three factors of Brahman, etc., become intelligible.

tion of acts by oneself and the desire for fruit of action, and according to the perfection of the peace and contentment attained.

There are four principal sub-divisions under mokṣha, viz., sālōkya, sāyōjya¹, sāmīpya, and sārūpya, based on (the nature of the) kriyā (belonging to each). Sālōkya is of the nature of samsāra, connected with U; the 'realisation' corresponding to it is, 'with the world', i. e., that there is nothing outside the loka, the world. Sāyōjya, again, is knowledge including both the Self and the Not-Self; this samsāra exists, surely, but it does so in 'conjunction' with the Ātmā; it implies that the Self and the Not-Self, A and U, are both accepted as mutually inseparable from and dependent on each other. As the sālōkya-mukṭa, believing in the Anātmā only, labours under the defect of not knowing the Self and the Nexus, so the sāyōjya-mukṭa, believing in the Self and the Not-self, suffers from the deficiency of not knowing the Nexus. Sārūpya is connected with name and form; with the Self, the Not-Self and the Negation; it is based on the M, on the svarūpa of the AUM, (i. e., its form and not its real significance).

¹ The spelling in the *Praṇava-vāḍa* is sāyōjya, and not sāyujya, as now-a-days. *Bhaviṣya-Purāṇa*, III, iv., ch. 7, has the spelling sāyōjya.

Sāmīpya,¹ 'nearness', 'approximation,' is the unity of all three. With reference to the transcendental, only an endless *approximation* is possible. It is true that in a certain sense even an atom is mukṭa, is a trinity possessing sālokyā, sāyojyā, and sāmīpyā, and based on the AUM; yet, because the universal AUM is transcendental, the definite and particular atom can make only an incessant and endless approximation to it. Because all are small and all are great comparatively, from the standpoint of Mahā-Viṣṇu an atom is only approximate to mukṭī; and so too is Mahā-Viṣṇu, from the point of view of another higher being, also only approximately mukṭa. This gradation extends endlessly. Sāmīpyā is the true mokṣha; he who has achieved it is the jīvitā-mukṭa; it is born of perfect achievement, sarva-siddhi-jā.

It is said sometimes that sālokyā is the first and sārūpyā the last and highest kind of mukṭi; but the true fact is that from the standpoint of saṁsāra, sālokyā comes first; then,

¹ Compare the expression in *The Secret Doctrine* 'the great day, Be-with-us' and the Samskr̥t word upāsānā, 'sitting near,' 'waiting or attending on,' commonly used to mean worship. See also *Light on the Path*, "It is beyond you, because it for ever recedes. You will enter the light, but you will never touch the flame."

by recognition of the Self, *sayojya*, wherein are combined both Self and Not-Self; and the third is *sārūpya* which implies that the Self and the Not-Self are 'one-formed' or one. From the standpoint of *sārūpya*, all is 'similarity,' same-formed-ness¹; all is free and all is bound, etc., and hence, in a way, *sārūpya* is capable of being regarded as the highest. But beyond that is the *sāmīpya* which includes all the trinity, *viz.*, the Self and the Not-Self and the Nexus between them. The triune AUM itself is *sāmīpya* including the other three. The four together are Brahman in which the *jīva* merges.

'Merged' in Brahman, *līna*, here means nothing more nor less than the clear realisation that the I is the Other, the Other is the I, and that the I and the Other, in the relation of Negation, are the Supreme; all appearance of separateness being the illusion of imagination, to the removal of which all endeavour is directed, as taught by the *śāstras*.

¹ That is to say, the consciousness in this condition is a consciousness which does not make distinction between Self and Not-Self, regarding both as not only inseparable but the same. In this sense it promotes the sense of unity; but—without clear and correct knowledge of the circumstances; the consciousness of unity here is confused, vague, non-discriminative. In the last there is clear knowledge of the unity in diversity.

Sā m ī p y a, as the highest knowledge, is n i r-
g u ṇ a and beyond time, space and motion, while
the other three forms of m u k ṭ i are s a g u ṇ a
and within space, etc. In this highest state only
dwell all true br ā h m a ṇ a s, etc. It is the fruit of
all sciences and all actions; and all actions and
all sciences are the fruits of it. In it is no
pleasure and no pain, no joy and no sorrow, but
ever unsullied purity and the necessity of all
things.

The atom of a system regards the Mahā-
Viṣṇu of that system as the limit of achieve-
ment. So, too, the Mahā-Viṣṇu regards some
one else, some other being, as such limit. The
achievements of such limited goals are called
the achievement of s ā y o j y a - m u k ṭ i, freedom
of the nature of identification with the being
who marks the limit. But s ā m ī p y a is the
universal, all-supporting and timeless conscious-
ness expressed by the Logion, that includes all
Self and all Other-than-Self.¹

¹ These remarks help us to understand the element
of truth that there also is in the current interpre-
tations of the various kinds of m u k ṭ i. According
to these, s ā l o k y a means attaining to and residing
in the same world as the deity who has been made
the ideal and the object of devotion; s ā m ī p y a
means constant nearness to and attendance on him;
s ā r ū p y a is attaining to his form and appearance;
while s ā y u j y a is mergence in and identity with

him. Sometimes a fifth kind is added to these four, viz., Sârshti, sameness of powers with the object of devotion. If the law of analogy is true, illustrations should be found in the surroundings of the physical plane familiar to us, of the facts of the subtlest plane that we can think and talk about—for the subtlest planes *are here*, interpenetrating the familiar physical, and are not things far distant and unapproachable. Accordingly, we may endeavour to bring these kinds of deliverance a little nearer home to ourselves by thinking of the case of an ambitious human aspirant who gradually succeeds in (i) obtaining access to the precincts within which the sovereign of his country resides, (ii) becoming one of his court, his entourage, and donning his uniform, (iii) becoming his confidential advisor and co-worker, (iv) becoming one of his family, by marriage, etc., (v) occasionally officiating for him and exercising his functions. If we substitute for the greater mutual resistance and exclusion of physical bodies, the greater intercommunication of subtler ones (—comets' tails are known to science to pass through each other—) ; for the intense egoism of the lower bodies, the greater 'universalism' of the buddhic and higher bodies ; the prevalence of love—such as makes the 'many' billions of separate living cells 'one' single organic individual—over the separativeness, the hate, that breaks up joint families into pieces ; then we may have a fair working idea of what various grades of *okṣha* are in the technical 'superphysical' sense, as distinguished from the metaphysical one

of 'freedom from doubt and consequent utter peace of mind'.

The theosophical student will probably be able to trace correspondences between the various 'technical' kinds of *mukṭi* mentioned here, (*viz.* *Jīvan-mukṭi*, *viḍeḥa-mukṭi*, *vimukṭi*, etc., and *salokya*, etc., considered independently, or as sub-divisions of *jīvan-mukṭi*, etc.) and the various stages of superphysical achievement and existence mentioned in the other religions, *e.g.*, *arhaṭ*, *aśekha*, *buḍḍha*, *pachcheka-buḍḍha*, *nirmāṇa-kāya*, *sambhoga-kāya*, *dharmakāya*, etc., in Buddhism; 'glory,' 'beatitude,' etc., in Christianity; *merāj* in Islām—and so on.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER IV. (*Continued.*) Sub-Section (II.)

THE SACRIFICES MENTIONED IN THE YAJUR-VEDA.

The significance of various *yajñas* or sacrifices.—The five daily sacrifices or the *pañcha-mahā-yajñas*, and the *bali-vaiśvadeva*, the *bali-praḍāna* and the *bali-bhūta*.—*Ashva-medha*, *gō-medha*, *nara-medha*, *ajā-medha* and *māhi-ṣha-medha*.—*Agni-hotra*, *vājapeya*, *dik-ṣhā*.

This highest or 'spiritual' knowledge is subserved by, is built upon, the 'action' of sacrifices,¹ expounded in the *Yajuh*, to understand and properly perform which action, again, knowledge

¹ The Samskr̥t word *yaj*, to sacrifice, to offer up, to give or devote to the service (of some cause of good), as well as its English equivalent 'sacrifice,' to render sacred, to consecrate to some purpose or to the will of a higher being—seem both to have equally narrowed down in significance in latter days. But there is a tendency arising again to restore them to their original breadth of significance, to recognise that no work can be done, no living form newly created or nourished and no effete form destroyed without *yajña* or sacrifice conscious or subconscious, on the part of some individual being of high order or low.

is necessary. Without such knowledge, the objects meant by the words *aśva*, *medha*, and others, those concerned with 'the five great daily sacrifices,' or with the rites relating to 'the sacrifice for all creatures,' etc., would not be understood rightly. In other words, action depends on knowledge and knowledge on action, and both on desire, all in inseparable relation; and *mukṭi* by *karma* alone is impossible, as it is impossible by *jñāna* alone, or by *ichchā* alone. Every sacrifice, *karma*, should be made and done with knowledge, *jñāna*, and with universal love, *bhakti*, also.

Aśva means that whereby the *jīva* approaches, *aśyaṭc*, comes up to, all beings, *i.e.*, cognition¹; and *medha* is the *act* of cognising or knowing. The performance of an *aśva-medha* is therefore the making, the acquiring, of knowledge for the good of all beings. Hence too are *aśvas* offered up to the fire. *Aśvas* are objects, things, word-meanings, born of knowledge (*i.e.*, intellectual objects, ideas, or,

¹ Hence the organs, primarily of sensation, the senses, and secondarily of motion or action. In the current *Upaniṣads* the senses are often referred to as the horses which have to be controlled. The *Bṛhad-āraṇyaka Upaniṣad* speaks of the *uśhā*, the dawn, (the morning-time of life, the period of acquiring knowledge) as the head of the sacrificial horse.

generally, objects of cognition) ; the offering of them is the pouring of them into the fire of Brahman (i. e., the assigning to them of their proper places in the Svabhāva of Brahman, the interpreting of them in terms of the Absolute). Hence such statements as that such-and-such study brings the fruit of a hundred or a thousand ashva-medhas. And thus we see how the ashva-medha subserves mokṣha.

The five great daily sacrifices, mahā-yajñas, have a similar significance. It is the dharma, the chief duty, of the household life, that the householder should take food himself only after having performed the five great yajñas and made bali, an offering of edibles into the fire. The significance of these five yajñas, generally, is the dealing with all the possible transactions of life with the constant consciousness that all beings are Brahman, that mine and thine are naught, that all belongs to all. Such transactions fall into five kinds: the first is the business, the work, of 'procreation,' 'may I become many,' multiplication ; the second is the realisation of all these many as being Brahman ; the third is the understanding of the necessity for all this ; the fourth is the following out, the due performance, of one's own special routine and assigned duty ; the fifth is the doing good to all, the service of all, in every possible way. Yajña is 'that which is fit and proper to do,' kṛtū-

yogyam. By this fivefold yajña, the fallacy, the heresy, the illusion, of separateness is destroyed gradually. Such is the primary duty of the householder, and hence the need to know the truth of Brahman before entering the household wherein the avoidance, the expiation of the five daily sins, sūnā¹, by the five daily yajñas, is possible and necessary.

¹ The current interpretation of these five daily sacrifices is of course different from the metaphysical one given here. The sins, sūnā, slaughtering-places, are not interpreted in the text; but they may well be supposed to be the opposites of those acts of merit which constitute the sacrifices, acts of exclusiveness, separateness and selfishness. The current view of these daily sins and their expiatory sacrifices is as below: A. (1) sweeping (2) husking (3) grinding (4) cooking and (5) watering, all which operations involve the slaughter of animalcules and insects. B. (1) study (2) hospitality to guests (3) oblations to the departed ancestors (4) offerings to the devas and (5) giving of food to insects and animals. It should be borne in mind that the metaphysical interpretation does not contradict or conflict with the current and literal one, any more than the existence of a general law conflicts with particular instances of its working.

An explanation of them sometimes given is that the first sacrifice, that to the devas, is the recognition of the interdependence between the physical and

Bali-praḍāna is the offering up of action. All **bali**, i.e., action, effort, should be offered up to the **Vishvêdevas**, should be regarded as done by the Whole and not by one's own small self.

The **devas** of the **vishva**, the world, are all **jīvas**, i.e., the totality of **jīvas**, from the atomic to the infinite-seeming. Indeed this host of **jīvas** is itself called **vishva**. For such reasons are the five **mahā-yajñas**, **bali-vaishva-deva**, and **bali-praḍāna** prescribed for the householder¹. The distinction between the last two is that the latter of them is directed towards individuals and the former to the all. These five **mahā-yajñas** commencing with the

super-physical worlds, and the rightful co-operation of their inhabitants with each other. The sacrifice to the **ṛṣhis** is the steady pursuit of study with a view to the teaching of others; that to the **pitṛs** is the recognition of the past and the endeavor to hand on the legacy, enriched, to the future; that to men, the feeding of the poor; that to **bhūtas**, the kindly tending of animals. Each of these duties should be performed every day, and thus the householder comes into and maintains right relations with his surroundings. (A. B.)

¹ The *Praṇava-vāda* seems to regard **bali-vaishva-deva** and **bali-praḍāna** as distinct from the five daily sacrifices; modern custom mixes them with the five.

personal and selfish, *svārtha*, end in duty for duty's sake, *paramārtha*. Hence has it been declared that the service of guests and travellers and worthy *yatis*, *brahmachāris* and *sannyāsīs*, in the five ways, leads gradually from egoism to disinterestedness, and the householder acquires an increasingly generous nobleness of character, abandons all calculations of personal results, and comes to regard the whole world as one family, without distinction of mine and thine; in every 'this' and 'this,' he sees the I, the universal I alone, and not the personal, and thus realises the A U M.

It is true that cognition, desire, action and their summation are only four, while we have five kinds of *yajñās*; this is because of the *aḍhiṣṭhāna*, the substratum.¹

Cognition, desire and action correspond respectively to *bali-vaishvaḍeva*, *bali-bhūṭa*, and *bali-praḍāna*. The *Ātmā* is the first; it is the great *ḍeva* or Over-lord of all the World-process, and all is for it. The *Samsāra* is the *bali-bhūṭa*,² the *Anātmā*

¹ The meaning is not clear, but see the paragraph on *māhiṣha-meḍha* *infra*.

² The *bali-bhūṭa*, not before mentioned, is probably intended to cover the five *mahā-yajñās*. The text is far from clear on these points. Just before, it has been stated that *bali-praḍāna* is the offering up of all action to the *Vishveḍevas*

that 'binds' with the words, 'me,' 'thee,' and so forth. The Negation is the *bali-praḍāna*, connecting the others together.

These three are the daily sacrifices of the householder, and the steady performance of all duties as subsidiary to them brings unshakable knowledge to him. The *agnihoṭra*-duty is covered by these three. All this world should be offered up, reduced, brought into *agni* which is light, *i.e.*, all the world should be comprehended in the light of *Brahman*. The 'offering up' is the burning up of personal desire. What has been offered up into the fire, *i.e.*, performed without personal desire, in the light of universal reason, as a matter of duty, reaches all beings, and is for the good of all. In another sense, also, objects cast into the fire assume new forms and reach subtler *jīvas* of other worlds or planes. Transmutation of the forms of objects is one result of all *yajñas*. The rites of *yajña*, well-performed, reach to and affect the best and subtlest beings; hence the ordainment to offer up the 'most excellent'¹ objects, rice, butter, and so on.

which would seem to identify it with *bali-vaishvaḍeva*; and in the current view *bali-bhūta* is only one of the five great daily sacrifices.

¹ In the hurry and bustle of life where 'familiarity breeds contempt' instead of affection, men's minds grow coarse and callous and superficial,

The five *medhas* or sacrifices, by the performance of which and of *agni-hotra*, etc., the *jīva* attains to the highest goal, are: the *gō-medha*, the *ashva-medha*, the *nara-medha*, the *ajā-medha*, and the *māhiṣha-medha*.¹ These and the *vāja-peya*, the *agni-hotra*, and the three *karmas* or rites of *dikṣhā* bring happiness.

and lose the finer instincts and more ethereal susceptibilities of the simpler *and deeper* child-nature. To understand the appropriateness of the qualification 'most excellent,' we have to put ourselves in the attitude of the *Manu* who ordains that the food that nourishes life shall be honored and eaten with reverence. And what things more 'excellent' than milk and butter, the produce of the mother-instinct of the cow, and the food-grains, the produce of the mother-instinct of the Earth. King *Midas*, of the old Greek story, who regarded gold as the 'most excellent' object, realised his error too late when, under the boon he had craved and received at the hands of the gods, his food was turned to gold at his touch. Those who have suffered from famine know the 'excellence' above all things of the food that gives them life. Also, special articles have special *super-physical* merits and excellences.

¹These five are known as the *naimittika*, or 'for special reason or occasion' in contra-distinction from the five *daily* sacrifices which are known as the *nitya* or 'constant,' 'daily.'

Gō-meḍha is the sacrifice of sound (the sanctification of speech); it signifies the giving or making intelligible of gā or speech by the meḍha or intelligence; it is the giving to all of the science of sounds or words. As said before, aśhva-meḍha is the accumulation of all knowledge for the use of all. Even the 'deniers,' nāstikas, who believe the world to be without an Īshvara and without Ātma, who think that whatever is is of itself, and neither was nor shall be, i.e., who confine themselves to the present moment and refuse to trace any causes and motives for anything into the past or the future, even they actively endeavour to impart their opinions to others. For if all this saṃsāra is self-accomplished and without any cause or motive, what is the use to them of entering into this advisory relation with others? Indeed, they do not act up to their views and thereby prove the fallacy of the latter. They find themselves compelled to recognise relations between things; otherwise all advice, counsel and conversation between human beings, such as they also recognise the validity of and themselves indulge in, would be impossible. It appears thus that aśhva-meḍha ought always to be performed; and, indeed, is necessarily and always being performed in greater or lesser degree by every one even without special or conscious effort on his part.

The transcendental consciousness, inherent in everything, 'May I become many,' is always manifesting itself in the fact of the exposition and propagation by every one of his own views for the acceptance of others. Especially is it the duty of kings to perform this sacrifice; for they are the guardians of dharma, indeed they exist only to guard it; and their prime duty is to provide for the giving to all of such instruction as will enable each to perform his dharma.

Nara-meḍha is the link between the preceding two. Nara is the name for that which is the support and substratum of all, and that is icchā which holds together all; therefore the sacrifice which makes fruitful the mutual dependence of the two others is the nara-meḍha.¹

The go-meḍha corresponds to the A; the ashva-meḍha to the U; the nara-meḍha to the M; and the ajā-meḍha is the samāhāra. When there is born the consciousness that nothing is born and nothing dies then is the ajā-meḍha performed; ajā means etymologically

¹ Compare the theosophical view that desire is predominant on the astral plane which is connected with the āpas-tattva, 'water,' 'parjanya,' 'clouds,' and that our present human consciousness is mostly astral; and Manu's statement that "the waters are called nārāḥ, and are the abode of him from whom our present life springs and who is therefore called Nārāyaṇa."

the unborn. Thereafter comes the fifth or *māhishameḍha*, which is ever performed by *Brahmā* and is ever connected with all things.

Brahmā, *Viṣṇu*, *Rudra*, *Mahā-Viṣṇu* and others perform these five *yajñas* and the world manifests in consequence. They correspond to cognition, desire, action and summation, and, fifthly, the transcendental *aḍhiṣthāna*, substratum,¹ known as the *Praṇava*. All these

¹ If we may hazard a guess as to the meaning of this fifth, it seems to be something like this: however much we may endeavour to define and declare the Absolute in words there always remains behind something which is recognisable only by and in the silence of the sub- or supra-consciousness (for the obvious reason that *the whole* cannot be comprehended by *a part*) ; if we say that the consciousness or the World-process or the Absolute is triple we, as a matter of fact, think only of *a limited whole*, *a system*, made up of similarly circumscribed three, and, therefore, we find that there is a fourth also, of the nature of summation; but when we have expressly stated this summation, it becomes, not identical with the totality of the three *but* a fourth, side by side with, besides, and other than the three; and then we have to resort to a fifth as the summation of the four; but if we should expressly state this fifth its *fate* would be the same and we should have to sub-consciously think of a sixth, and so on.

meḍhas, yajñas and kriyās are included in Aham-Eṭaṭ-Na. The māhisha-meḍha is included in the Negation, 'there is no fruit to be looked for, nothing to be done, all is born of Svabhāva'. Included in the Not-This together with the Aham is the ajā-meḍha, the summation and the combination of *is* and *is-not*. Included in the Eṭaṭ is the nara-meḍha.¹

The ashva-meḍha is the combination of I-This and This (?). The I alone, the supreme sound, the Shabda-Brahman is the go-meḍha.²

Because of this significance of the yajñas is it declared: He who, gaining knowledge,

¹ This seems to be put from some other standpoint, as an alternative view, for, just before, nara-meḍha has been connected with ichchhā which corresponds to the Negation.

² In the modern view these sacrifices mean, respectively, the bull-sacrifice, the horse-sacrifice, the man-sacrifice, the goat-sacrifice and the buffalo-sacrifice. One allegorical view interprets these as the sacrifices of the various animal passions typified by the various animals, pride, restlessness, selfishness, lust, anger, etc. Another superphysical explanation, brought out in theosophical literature, is that in very exceptional circumstances, a *human* soul happened to have become tied to an animal body, as a punishment, and it was set free by the destruction of that body at one of these sacrifices, by special ceremonial.

giveth it to others, he is the wise man and virtuous, and he knoweth the *ḍharma*. This imparting of knowledge to others is the first *karma*. Conduct in accordance with the knowledge gained is the second. The accomplishment of wishes by means of good conduct is the third. There is no conduct, good or bad, no knowledge and no ignorance, all is *Brahman*, embodied *Saṭ-chiṭ-ānanda*—to realise this is the fourth. The fifth is constant endeavour for the good of all. And all this together is *mokṣha*. Not to perform these sacrifices is to incur sin, for he who gives not to others the knowledge gained by him, in him the *jñāna* aspect of the *Ātmā* is distressed, narrowed, atrophied, and all his action vitiated. For this same purpose of spreading knowledge do all incarnations take place; and by such *yajña*-sacrifice alone the world was born, exists, and shall continue.

The significance and purpose of *agni-hotra*, *vāja-peya* and *dīkṣhā* are similar. *Agni-hotra*, is the offering up, into the fire of *Brahman*, of what has been acquired, by oneself. In the *vāja-peya*, while the acquired is offered up, the unacquired is striven after and sought. *Dīkṣha*, initiation, is the connecting together of the *agni-hotra* and the *vāja-peya* in this relation, *viz.*, that the acquired and the unacquired are all the same in all-time and

all-space, and that Brahman includes all. Dīkṣha is the instruction, 'if this is done, such will be the result, this is the right thing to do on this occasion.'

The agni-hotra corresponds to the A; vāja-peya to the U; dīkṣhā-karma to the M; and the totality of all these is samskāra, initiation, consecration, which corresponds to the summation.

To those in the household, action is the bringer of mokṣha. The five mahā-yajñas and bali-vaishva-deva, etc., are the niṭya-yajña, the constant or daily sacrifices. The five meḍhas and agni-hotra, vāja-peya, dīkṣhā, etc., are the naimiṭṭika or occasional, performed because of special reason, occasion. He who passes through this high samskāra attains Brahman. The former corresponds to A; the latter to U; to M corresponds the a-naimiṭṭa which is neither, but which is the whole of the duty of the system of castes and life-stages that is summed up in the AUM. Samskāra, sacrament, is the cause of differentiation (of physical and superphysical qualifications of special kinds).¹

¹ This and the next para indicate still another aspect of these initiations, that of 'occult ceremonies' whereby the ranks of the hierarchies, the spiritual rulers and guides of evolution are recruited. There is nothing mystical or even obscure in these matters

R̥ṣhis, mahar̥ṣhis, mahāṭmās, brāhmaṇas, yogīs and devas come to yajñās and give teaching according to their power. Such indeed is the fruit of all assemblages of the good, and hence the saying that Bhagavān himself dwells in the 'assembly'. The place of yajña is the place of such gatherings, and such places only are ṭīrthas, holy places, for, by going to them and listening to the teachings given and practising them, jīvas 'cross over' (the etymological meaning of ṭīrtha being a crossing-place, a ford, a ferry) that is to say, pass beyond doubts and illusions.

even though they are not public. Their *nature* seems to be the same as that of the preparations, tests and examinations for and installations in various offices in the various departments of the outer physical life of a nation; but the details are of course very different.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER VI. (*Continued.*) Sub-Section (III).

THE SACRAMENTS MENTIONED IN THE YAJUR-VEĀ.

The significance of the *samskāras* or sacraments.—Their dual aspect, conventional, unreal or formal, and real or metaphysical.—The supreme importance of *upa-nayana*.—The symbolical meaning of certain ceremonial articles connected with *brahma-charya*.—The sixteen *samskāras*.

Thus we see that action bases itself on and is connected with cognition, and hence the ordinance that sacrifices should be performed after completing *brahma-charya*. It is true that morning and evening *havana*, offering into the fire, is ordained during *brahma-charya* also, but it has a special significance, there. The *Smṛti*-verse says: Having got together the fuel of *samiṭ* or *palāsha* (different kinds of wood) let him raise the fire, 'morning and evening.' Here *samiṭ* and *palāsha* signify only study and the revision of the lessons. *Samiṭ* indicates knowledge generally; *palāsha* means the same with reference to practical application and action; *agni* is desire; the three correspond to the primal Trinity. Mutual discussion, the voluntary exposition of their special subjects

to each other, by students, is *havana*. The 'mornings and evenings,' are the proper time for study.

When *brahma-charya* has been completed successfully the desire for selfish results disappears. Hence the placing of the household life after it. Only in this wise, joy and sorrow being both seen to be naught, can the work of *Brahman*, duty, be performed steadfastly.

The begging for food enjoined upon *brahmachāris* has also for object the removal of all false sense of pride and humiliation, and the realisation of all as Self.¹

Because both knowledge and action are means to *mokṣha*, therefore is *samskāra*, consecration, initiation, needed for all persons. Without such sacrament the realisation of *Brahman* cannot be accomplished. The rules as to caste, etc., are all connected with *samskāra*. There are two primary divisions of caste, *dvija*, twice-born, and *a-dvija*, non twice-born. The latter is the *śūdra*, the servant of all beings. The

¹ And also, we may perhaps add, the circulation of a constant current of affection between the householders as a body and the students, their own children, as a body; an ideal and idyllic condition of the truest and highest socialism where anybody's child would be treated in any and every house as a child of *that* house, when he comes hungry, asking for food.

former is he who has been born from or by means of two kinds of sacrament¹. This class is sub-divided into brāhmaṇa, kṣhaṭṭriya and vaiśya by correspondence to A, U, and M. The two kinds of consecration are the saṭya, true or real, and the asaṭya, false or apparent and conventional. The true consecration is connected with the knowledge of Brahman; the conventional one with the work, activity, or external forms and appearances and manifestations of Brahman. Above both is the third, viz., the asamskṛta, the unconsecrated or beyond consecration.

The true consecration is the conjunction, the harmonious mergence and union, of cognition and action, which is possible only when all three, viz., karm a, jñāna, and bhakṭi² have been gained, and are evenly combined. But the gain of one only of these is also a sacrament, and that is a conventional one.

¹ The current interpretation of dvi-ja is 'born a second time' by means of the sacrament of upanayana, the 'leading up' to the Teacher, (ultimately to Brahman, by means of the baptism of fire, the fire of heart-searching and world-searching, the fire of pain and sorrow out of which arises the introspective consciousness, the true second birth).

² These words may perhaps be translated briefly and conveniently, by gnosis, pistis and energism (see Baldwin's *Dictionary of Philosophy*).

The nature of the birth and origin of all beings in one and the same, *viz.*, a conjunction of P u r u ṣ h a and Prakṛti, Self and Not-Self, because of mutual desire. These beings are sub-divided into four kinds, minerals, vegetables, animals, and humans, corresponding to cognition, desire, action and the summation. These four are connected with s ṭ h ũ l a or dense matter and are perceivable by the physical senses. *Before* and *after* these four, too, extends an endless series, in correspondence with the rule of four; and *within* these four, again, are endless atoms, and a tetrad within each atom. All is thus transcendental and infinite, and, in this view, we see at once that all is relative and similar in respect of all action, *i.e.*, of becoming or birth, stay, death, rebirth, etc.

All men are thus the same in birth; but their work is different and differentiates them in accordance with the predominance of cognition, or desire, or action, the fourth or summation, being the service of all, s h ũ ḍ r a-hood.

He who simply serves all beings is the s h ũ ḍ r a; he has no clear knowledge, either of the relation of action and desire or of the summation. (This is the first stage). Of these s h ũ ḍ r a s, he who begins to slightly know the Self, the Not-Self and the Negation, his consciousness begins to turn inwards from outwards; for and by means of this he restrains the

activity of the senses and strives after self-control, *sva-vashī-karaṇa*, and thus attains *vaishya*-hood. This inward-turning of the consciousness is the true consecration. The unreal consecration, on the other hand, is the outer imitation thereof by taking up *brahma-charya* and its duties, *viz.*, the study of the inner or subjective and other sciences, whereby fitness for the true consecration is gained. In the condition of the *śhūdra*, to serve for personal gain is the *imitation* of the true service which is devoid of all expectation of return, and so constitutes *a-saṭ-śhūdra-tva*, false *śhūdra*-hood; whereas service based on the consciousness that all is produced from the one, even though it be external service with the immediate attention directed outward and the senses active, makes *saṭ-śhūdra-tva*, true or good *śhūdra*-hood.¹ So the mere imitation,

¹ It must be clear to the reader and should be borne in mind that the words *saṭ* and *a-saṭ*, real and unreal, true and false, have a technical sense in this work, and that the second has no disparaging or condemnatory implication. They correspond with metaphysical and physical, ideal and real, transcendental and empirical, abstract and concrete, principle and practice, theory and embodiment, rule and illustration, homogenous and heterogenous, generalisation and differentiation, universal and particular, law and instance.

the outer form, of the *saṭ* or true *vaishya*, is the *asaṭ* or conventional *vaishya* who carries on trade and business generally. The accomplishment of the work of *Brahman* by means of that trade, for the sake of oneself, of others and of duty, is the mark of the *saṭ vaishya*. In the case of the *kṣhaṭṭriya*, *kṣaṭṭra* is the destruction of vice and the promotion of virtue, it is the upholding of *dharma* and the guarding of it for the good of oneself and of all others, because all are One. This is the work of the *saṭ kṣhaṭṭriya*. Its outer or formal imitation in the conventional relations, *vyavahāra*, behaviour, of king and subject, the protection of the subject, the establishment of laws, *maryāḍā*, bounds, limits, conventions, is the work of the *asaṭ* or conventional *kṣhaṭṭriya*. Finally, the knowledge of *Brahman* in its triunity is the quality of the *saḍ brāhmaṇa*; while the formal imitation thereof, the work of the *asaḍ brāhmaṇa*, is the sixfold activity of sacrificing and helping others to sacrifice, study and teaching, and giving and receiving of gifts, all done with the ultimate object of attaining to the *saṭ*. The person who has the right to perform the seventh *karma* is neither the *brāhmaṇa*, nor the *kṣhaṭṭriya*, nor the *vaishya*, nor the *shūdra*; that *karma* is the performance of the other six without selfish desire for personal results. The sub-division of

cognition, action and desire by two (i. e., cognition and action?) gives the six ; while the totality of them is the seventh.

This inward turning of the consciousness, then, is the second or *saṭya*, true and real, *samskāra*, which brings about the second birth, or birth by means of the *samskāras*.

The *upa-nayana* (literally, leading up or guiding, and conventionally investiture with the sacred thread) is the chief of all sacraments. It can be accomplished only with the help of a *saḍguru*, a true preceptor. When the understanding arises in the *jīva* that the whole of *Samsāra* is an inseparable compound of pleasure and pain, that pleasure can never be secured in the world unalloyed with and unmarred by pain, then is the proper time for this consecration. 'The maker of all this is *Īshvara* ; I am the *Ātmā* ; all is composed of *Brahman* ; and *Brahman* is *ānanda* itself qualified by *saṭ* and *chit*. How and why then is there all this doubt and illusion in this world, and this perplexing rotation of birth, life and death ; how pleasure and pain, joy and sorrow, love and hate ? What and where is the law and order in all this ? How and from what does all this arise ?' When such reflections arise in the *jīva* then he seeks out his *saḍguru* and obtains knowledge from him and becomes an *upanīṭa*, 'the guided, the brought up, the initiated.' The obtaining of exact

knowledge of the Three in their unity and diversity alone constitutes the true upa-nayana.

The formal and external representation of this is the conventional ceremony, known as upaviṭa, also called the vrata-bandha, 'the binding on or taking up of the vow,' for from that time begins the observance of the vow of brahma-charya, which means study of the subjective sciences. All rejoice on the occasion, for the possibility of 'earning' or gaining Brahman comes near to them all at the time. They are glad that this boy, their relative, becomes a brahma-chārī, a 'walker' in Brahman, does everything as directed by his āchārya,¹ guide and preceptor, and with him studies this supreme science.

The outer mark of the ceremony is the putting on of the thread. But the real triple thread is the trinity of cognition, desire and action. A yajña or sacrifice is performed on the occasion, for the successful accomplishment of the study and the removal of all hindrances thereto, and the devas of this world and ṛṣhis, maharṣhis,

¹ आचिनोति च शास्त्रार्थानन्यानाचारयत्यपि ।

स्वयमाचरते चैव तस्मादाचार्य उच्यते ॥

"Because he 'gathers together' the essential teachings of all true sciences, because he 'induces others to act' according to them, because he himself 'lives them'—therefore is he given the honored name of āchārya".

brāhmaṇas, yogīs and other high beings are invoked and invited to it as witnesses of the ceremony; and all the assembled people pray to them: 'Do ye help in the fulfilment of this vow of brahma-charya, let this jīva's innermost desire turn to the study of the truth of Brahman.' And the father and the mother of the boy, having placed the sign and symbol of the thread upon him and taught him his new duties, send him away with the āchārya: 'Go willingly and gladly, O beloved! and obey him in all things; study the science of Brahman, learn the truth, become Brahman and then return and happily engage in the work of this Samsāra.'

In accordance with the rule of cognition, desire and action (?) it is proper for the boy to maintain his connection with his family for an *ahna*¹, a week, after the ceremony, and then he follows the āchārya to learn the *Veḍa* with its *Āṅgas* and *Upāṅgas*, and all the laws of the World-process.

This inward-turned consciousness belongs to the three varṇas, 'colors,' castes, only; hence they only have the right to the upa-vīṭa. He who has

¹ *Ahna* seems to be used for a week, in this work, instead of a day, which seems to be the modern interpretation of the word; or perhaps there is a difference between the old *ahnah* and the modern *ahah* and *ahan*.

not the intelligence that can perform introspection and grasp subjective things, he is outside the pale of *ḍvi-ja-tva*, twice-born-ness. *Paramparā*, heredity, has also a place in this reference. *Vaiśhyas*, *kṣhaṭṭriyas* and *brāhmaṇas* have the subjective consciousness by heredity. Those whose constant work is the inward-turning of the consciousness—the work of those born among such will also be similar; and, as all the world knows, the birth of every one is guided by his previous *karma*. As his *karma* has been, so is the man's family, business, wealth, race, country, pleasure, pain, etc., and also his caste. It is true that many have only the wish to be born in a higher caste and perform just enough *karma* to secure this. But they have not the power to do the duties of the caste. Yet, having been born there, they get the teachings that belong to and are current in that caste and so secure the wanting faculties in later births.

This division into castes and stages, these sacraments and sacrifices, belong, under different names and forms, to all times and all places. Analogies to them exist even amongst minerals and vegetables in subtle ways. They are only prominent amongst the humans, and this is so because these are the highest of the 'gross' kingdom, (i. e., the physical plane).

Those, then, who have been consecrated and initiated duly, according to law, acquire the

right to the subjective sciences. If the subjective or introspective bent appears in the *śhūḍra* he becomes a *ḍvi-jā*. On the other hand, he who never gains this inward-consciousness and never turns to the inner sciences, he falls from the estate of the twice-born, though born as one. In this ever-crumbling *Samsāra*, composed of pleasure and pain, to be dejected over death and elated over birth, to exult over gains and wail under losses, is the meanest way of living; and not to know the simple truth about the All is to be truly fallen. Otherwise, indeed, from the standpoint of the Absolute, there is no misery and no glory.

For such reasons are directions given for the consecration of the three castes according to the subtle laws that govern their length of life, mental, physical, and superphysical powers, constitutional functions and activity, etc. If the initiation does not take place before a particular age is reached, the *jīva* 'falls' because he has no further opportunity of being able to secure the subjective or introspective consciousness in this life.¹

Therefore have times, places, and ages been fixed for the consecration of the three castes respectively by the Elders of our race.

¹ The matter of the brain-cells 'sets,' so to say, as bones and muscles set and cannot be manipulated unless trained in the early years of life.

Consecration by sixteen sacraments, each subdivided into *saṭ* and *asaṭ*, real and formal, is in this wise laid down for the three castes. The three factors of the Logion, and their summation, multiplied by themselves,¹ yield the sixteen. The times prescribed for their performance are based upon the ordinary length of human life. It is true that some die in infancy, others in childhood or in youth, and there is no period fixed unchangeably for the span of human life; still, in a general way, the length thereof is determined for and by each epochs; thus, each particular *yuga* or *manvantāra* has its own normal and healthy span of life for its living creatures. Those who fall away from the laws of *āchāra*, right conduct, fall under other laws and are dealt with specially. The consecrations are based on what is common to the majority. As already indicated, the sub-divisions of real and formal or conventional sacraments correspond to cognition and action, respectively, desire being the hidden nexus. By permutations and combinations of these we get indeed an endless number of sacraments and they are all described as *karma*, *kriyā*, action and ritual, and are therefore dealt with in the *Yajur-veda*, but sixteen are the more important.

¹ That is to say, each being sub-divided into four reflexions of the original four, like the *Veḍas*.

The passing through these sacraments is regarded as dharma, duty. Ordinarily they belong to the three castes, as said, but if a śhūdra should attain to the inward consciousness by means of service of others, then he too acquires a full right to be taken through all these sacraments by a saḍ-guru, a 'true' teacher. As has been said: 'On completing service all enter into the three castes. Serve all beings by thought, word and deed. So only, gradually, is the status of the vaiśhya gained, then that of the kṣhatriya, and lastly that of the brāhmaṇa. Finally, becoming Brahman, the jīva can create new worlds. Briefly, the object and result of all these sacraments is the achievement of the consciousness that the all is I and the I is all.'

The *Veḍas* mention the sixteen samskāras, but the *Smṛtis* only ten; this is because ten are primary and the remaining six secondary.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER VI. (*Continued.*) Sub-Section (iv).

THE SACRAMENTS OF THE YAJUR-VEĀ.

The various samskāras.—Implantation of the seed of the body.—2. Invocation of the jīva to inhabit it.—3. Humanisation of both.—4. Bringing to birth and outer manifestation.—5. Assignment of characteristic name.—6. Dressing up and preparing for future work.—7. Determination of specific vocation and outer marking of it.

(a) The first sacrament is the garbh-āḍh-āna, 'the planting of the seed,' the conception. When kāmā, love, desire, arises in the woman, then the rajas, menstrual flux, appears. It recurs every month, hence is called the ṛṭu, season, and hence also the word ṛṭu-maṭi for woman. Four days is the period thereof and therein union should be avoided; thereafter the eagerness, the culmination, of desire comes to the woman, and union is permitted. The embryo arises from the conjunction of the vīrya, seed or sperm, and the rajas, ovum or germ. The establishment of the embryo is accompanied by a sacrament, a consecration. The condition of a woman carrying a foetus is different from her ordinary condition, even as the case is with plants when in flower before fruiting. The

fruiting is a sacrament, a *samskāra*; therein manyness is achieved. Women are the means of this achievement. All this relates to the sacrament of *garbh-āḍhāna*, which is needed to secure the due retention and development of the foetus.

The real, inner, consecration, (the metaphysical or subjective idea underlying the external formalities of the rite), the *saḍ-garbh-āḍhāna* is the beginning of reflexion about Brahman, 'Who am I, and whence am I?' (It is the planting of the seed of introspective self-consciousness, out of which, as one among other consequences, will grow and develop the inner, subtler body).

(b) The second is the *sīmanṭ-onnayana*. Growth begins in the embryo from the very moment of conception. The time of the completion of this growth, of its full filling out with the atoms of the seed and the ovum, and of the clear definition of trunk and limbs and organs, is the time for this sacrament. It is the time when the *jīva* comes and enters into the embryonic body.¹ The entrance of the *jīva*

¹ The permanent atom enters the seminal fluid and attaches itself to a spermatozoon; the physical sheath of the thread to which the atom is attached, connecting it with the higher atoms, is completed in the fourth month, and with this there is a flow of life downwards from the *jīva*, and

subsequently to the formation of the body is declared everywhere. The body is formed by the multiplication of the compounded atoms of germ and sperm, because each such atom is a trinity and possesses the power of multiplication which manifests everywhere in the World-process; and thereafter some one *jīvātma* which is connected with the atoms of the body in the womb, comes and enters into it. For the joy of that coming and for the assuring of the *jīva*'s connexion with and stay in the body is this rite performed. The *sīmā*, limit of ('mechanical') growth, of the body comes to its *anṭa*, end, then; and *unnayana*, upleading, bringing up, is the fixing of the connexion between the *jīva* and the body,¹ (the

'quickenings' occurs. I think this is what is meant by "the *jīva* comes and enters, etc." Until this sheath round the connecting thread is formed, the *jīva* cannot reach the foetus. After that there is free communication between the growing foetus and the astral and mental bodies. Up to this stage, the vegetative and animal processes might have gone on 'mechanically,' *i.e.*, without the presence of a permanent atom, but if that is absent, miscarriage before or at this time *must* occur. (A. B.)

¹ The modern and current interpretation of the word is that *sīmanta* is the 'the parting in the middle of the tresses of a woman,' and *unnayana* is the arranging, dressing or braiding up thereof; and,

'taking up' of the body by the jīva itself).

as a matter of fact, this toilette forms the chief item in the ceremony as it is performed in India, now-a-days.

The remarks in the text are very interesting and suggestive in the light of modern embryology and the theosophical and Vedāntic views and discussions as to the exact relation between the jīva and the embryo. One view is that the jīva enters into the matrix *together with* the paternal sperm with which it is *already* connected ; another, that it enters the embryo at the moment of conception ; a third that it comes to occupy it later on, but while it is still in the womb, e.g., *Mamṁ Samhitā* gives the seventh month, (when, medically, the child becomes viable) ; a fourth that it does not enter the body *fully* till the seventh year after birth, and so on. The view stated here seems, with a little explanation, to reconcile all these various views. The jīva *enters* into the embryo when it is fully formed, as a master *begins* to *live* in a new house only after it has been completed by the builders ; but the master is *in relation* with the house from the *earliest* diggings of its foundations and initiates its commencement, and the builders build it according to his needs and wishes and under his direct or indirect supervision and guidance. (See note on p. 178 *supra*). Even so the super-physical 'builders' build each body in accordance with the needs of the karma of each jīva, from the moment of conception. Indeed, in view of the fact that the World-process is an unbroken continuum everywhere, this relation of

The true sacrament here is the completion, the the jīva to its physical envelopes may be traceable in an indefinite regression and progression before and after any particular conception through pro-genital cells and particles of matter, (the germplasm) into all the kingdoms, animal, vegetable, mineral, elemental, etc. The theories which say that the physical attraction which brings together two beings of opposite sexes is the action of a soul seeking birth, the pretty mythos that makes Cupid a little child shooting arrows of love to bring together youth and maiden, also find explanation in the light of this interpretation; a jīva seeking birth influences the coming together of the parents. (See *Bhaviṣhya-Purāṇa*, Pt. III, kh-iv, ch-xiv. 30-31, where this view is stated almost in so many words).

The Vedāntic statement is that the jīva that is still subject to rebirth goes to the moon, Chandramā or Soma, ("the gate of Svarga" in and out of which the jīva goes and comes, see the *Chhāndogya*.) after quitting its physical tenement on this earth (those going to the Sun not being liable to rebirth); and that when the time for its rebirth arrives it descends to the earth by means of parjanya, clouds, through the good offices of Varuṇa, the ruler of the water-world; that the drop of rain to which the jīva is attached enters into a cereal, and the jīva finally passes into the paternal human parent attached to a food-grain and thence into the womb of the maternal parent attached to the sperm. The theosophical allegorical explanation of this is that the Soma.

perfection, of the consciousness of the I and world is the lower mental plane and the Varuṇa-world, the astral plane, and that the redescending jīva first re-creates for itself a mental body and an astral body (by means of the faculties stored in its kāraṇa-saṁhāra, which practically constitutes its higher self and to a varying extent influences the builders, the nature-spirits, in their work of building up these lower bodies) ; and that a nature-spirit finally shapes the embryo in the womb according to its needs and deserts as embodied in a 'form' provided by the agents of the karmic law. Of course this allegorical explanation is very illuminative. But there is no inconsistency between it and the literal interpretation. The latter seems no doubt very fanciful at first sight ; but let us look again, a second time, and we may see better. Compare the following extract, from an up-to-date modern book of science, *The Story of Animal life*, by D. Lindsay (1902 A. D.) "The history of the Liver-fluke is a most complicated example of alternation of generations. The adult form infests the sheep's liver. There it produces eggs, which afterwards find their way into water. Here they die unless they find their way into a certain water-snail, which many of them do. Within this snail--*linncea truncatula*--the egg developes into a sac-like body, called a sporocyst. This produces within itself numbers of a small creature which is called the Redia form. These in turn produce a tailed form, called a Cercaria, which gets out of the snail, swims in water, and finally settles down on some plant. Here it is eaten by an unfortu-

of the fact that the I is the Ā ṭ m ā, connected

nate sheep, within which it developes into the adult fluke " (p.75). The history of the seventeen-year locust is even more astonishing. Which of the these stories is the more fanciful? Indeed the student of science, and, more so, of metaphysic must always be prepared to meet without surprise and with a sympathetic smile the perpetration of the most fanciful conceits and far-fetched jokes by that great amusement-seeker and inveterate pastime-hunter, the Self, in concert with His life-long and equally facetious and sport-loving companion and playmate, Prakṛti, the Not-Self. In this particular case indeed, there is much reason to believe that the physical moon, which has in past time contributed to the population of this earth by sending lunar piṭṛs (micro-organisms) to inhabit it, is still connected in some way or other with our mental plane, and so the clouds and waters with our astral plane, for, after all, these planes are material and so in space and time. Thus may both these interpretations be regarded as quite consistent with our text here.

Development by cell-multiplication seems also to be alluded to in the text, and in a way which, while not contradicting the latest views as to specialised sperm and germ cells, indicates that those views should not be emphasised too much and exaggerated; each atom has the power of multiplying and reproducing itself inherent within it, and though division of labour is a patent fact in nature it is

with the A and distinct from space, time, and substance.

also not infrequent for a person brought up in one occupation to take up another, at a pinch. By a due combination of these two facts observable in every department of the world-process, a real *continuum* underlying an apparent separateness, the one and the many, in consequence of which 'all exists everywhere,' we can generally successfully appraise the value of and locate the amount of truth present in each of two conflicting hypotheses that may be put forward in connexion with any series of observed facts. Thus, in the conflict of opinion as regards the transmission of acquired characters, between Darwinism and Weismannism, the solution would lie in the *degree* of acquisition. Where, in an abnormal individual, the consciousness has, so to say, run away from his sex-side to develop lop-sidedly his music-side or painting-side, or poetry-side, there the germ-cells cannot be sufficiently modified to reproduce the faculty for music, painting, etc. But if the two sides, *viz.*, the sex-feeling and the special genius-faculty were normally connected by and in the ensouling consciousness, as arms and legs and trunk and senses are, they too would be as unfailingly reproduced as these. The intelligence of an ordinarily well-educated European would amount to abnormal genius in a race of primitive savages; and if one of the latter should develop it in some way, his consciousness would have to be so turned aside from nourishing the sex-nature that he would probably fail to transmit it to any physical progeny

(c) The third sacrament is the p u m-

his bodily instincts and passions may (if at all) produce; but the capacity, the power, of developing that amount of intelligence is normally reproduced in Europe because a higher general level has been reached and a *sufficient amount* of consciousness is available for the even nourishment of both sides. On this point the following statement of Weismann himself, in his latest and maturest work, is worth considering: "Potentially the first Biophorids contained an absolutely inexhaustible wealth of forms of life, and not merely those which have actually been evolved." (*The Evolution Theory*, vol. II. pp. 390, 391). The statement may help to bring out the significance of the metaphysical paradox that all exists everywhere and also to show that Weismann's insistence on the non-transmissibility of acquired characters is self-contradictory, except in a very restricted and special sense, for, indeed, there is no real acquiring of any absolutely new characters in any case, but only an unfoldment of something which was already and always potentially present, and only *seems* new because newly *unfolded*.

In theosophical language, a reconciliation between the different views, mentioned at p. 180, may perhaps be effected by saying that the various permanent atoms, physical, astral, mental etc., (see Annie Besant's *A Study in Consciousness*, I. iv.) corresponding to the various bodies, enter or make connexion with or take possession of their living sheaths, at different successive stages, more and more fully; there being a parallel weaning from or 'birth' out of parental envelopment and

savana, the 'human birth.'¹ After the stay of the jīva has been assured, this rite is performed, and it helps to make known all the conditions and stages that the jīva passes protection, (in and by means of the various parental bodies, physical, etheric, astral, etc.) at each such step. These periodic crises (see *The Science of the Emotions*, p. 2, footnote) may be regarded as forming a continuous series of comparative 'movings in' and 'movings out,' in terms of the different planes; and may be said to be observable in the various grades of superphysical achievement and technical mukṭi, in yoga-progress also. Thus for a human yogī to become able to function beyond the limits of 'the sphere of influence,' 'the aura,' 'the gravitation-periphery' of the Earth would be like an infant's developing sufficient muscle-power and mental self-reliance to be able to crawl out from the protecting arms, wishes, thoughts of the parents. In the terms of the illustration of the house, we may say that the master continues to enter into possession of it ever more and more fully, from its very inception, by means of various agents, architects, builders, servants, etc., step by step; and even after he has begun to occupy it with his physical body, continues to be 'settled' in it more and more, for long.

¹ The modern interpretation is 'the bringing forth of a male child.' Also, it now-a-days *precedes* sīmānta, in the families where it is observed, at all. '[Sex is determined before the seventh month. A. B.]

through. Briefly, the *jīva* passes through, in that one womb, an 'imitation' of what it passed through in every 'womb,' (matrix, type, kingdom) that it has ever experienced before; the embryo is transformed and evolved and the body formed in the order of all the 'wombs,' kingdoms, types, wherein the *jīva* has dwelt in the past. Thus, when a *jīva* has passed from the vegetable to the animal kingdom, in becoming born as an animal it first developes the 'genus and the individuality' or the form of a plant and then receives the impress of animality in the uterus. This is observable everywhere. Hence after the *śimantonnayana* is mentioned the 'imitation' by the foetus, while the body is still forming, of all its previous 'wombs'. This 'imitation' takes place again (a second time, as regards the inner, mental, characteristics?) after the coming in of the *jīva*, hence the corresponding sacrament of *pūṃśavana*¹.

¹ This is a statement of the newly re-discovered facts of ontogeny, palingeny and phylogeny. The modern ceremony is directed to bringing about that the child to be born shall be a male child. The text seems to indicate that the aim of the rite is to make sure that the embryo, in the course of its biogenetic recapitulation, shall arrive at the full human stage and not stop short at an earlier one and so be born as an atavistic monstrosity.

The real sacrament here is the conjunction of the I with the This, (and the definite subordination of the lower self to the Higher Self).

(d) The fourth is *j ā ṭ a - k a r m a*, the 'birth-rite.' It is the accompaniment of the success of the wish, 'May I be many,' which was formed at the time of the union of the man and the woman. This rite is performed for the maintenance of that success. All action being three-fold, *viz.*, birth, stay, and death, the endeavour to secure stay naturally follows after the birth.

In the corresponding true consecration the idea is 'What is This; what accrues to the I by that which This is?' (*i.e.*, the endeavour to realise in life and surroundings, to make manifest, the reign of the Higher Self and its benefits.)

(e) The fifth is the *n ā m a - k a r a ṇ a*, the naming. It is true that *Brahman* is one, yet separateness appears therein and those that appear separate have separate names also, fitly. In truth however all names belong to all.

The true naming is the thinking of the This by the I and of the I by the This—mutual cognition of subject and object, so to say. The name given to an object depends upon the nature of the cognition connected therewith, for cognition and sound are correlated. He who knows or cognises anything, invents a name for it. Words, sounds, names, are necessary for

the accomplishment of the desire connected with cognition. To frame sounds on the basis of that knowledge is to give names whereby things are recognised. Thus, by the utterance of the word A h a m, such a cognition connected or concerned with A, by the utterance of E ṭ a ṭ, such another connected with U, is understood. E ṭ a ṭ is included in A h a m and A h a m in E ṭ a ṭ; this is the underlying principle here. If the two were not so included within each other, there would be neither I nor 'This.'¹ (In other words, the metaphysical counterpart of the sacrament is the naming, the translation, the understanding of the World-process by the I in terms of Itself and *vice versa*).²

¹ More on the connexion of language and thought will be found later on in dealing with *Vyākaraṇa* or grammar. (See Sec. III, Chapter XIII, *infra*).

² The following note was sent to me by my good friend, Mr. E. H. Bellairs:—... In this connexion it is interesting to compare Prof. Adamson's excellent exposition of Fichte. He says (p. 172). "The very characteristic of the Ego, its reflexion upon itself as a definite somewhat, is possible only under the condition that it limits itself through an opposite"—(E. H. B.)

As said in *The Science of Peace*, Fichte, of all western philosophers, is the most helpful preparation for the student of metaphysic, at least as

(f) The sixth is the *ch ū ḍ ā-k a r a ṇ a*, the hair-dressing or 'lock-making.' It signifies the assignment of a work, a duty, to the *jīva* that has been born. What is the purpose of a *jīva* being born? To accomplish the work of the World-process. This rite is performed to indicate the fact that henceforward this *jīva* also engages in work. The *k ṣ h a u r a-k a r m a*, 'shaving-act,' etc., signifies that the work of the world should be taken up after removing the hair and the nails that were formed in the

expounded in the *Vedānta*, and in such works as this. For he endeavours to understand the World-process in terms of Ego and Non-Ego, Self and Not-Self, and comes nearest to the final solution as presented here.

Adamson's *Fichte* (Blackwood's *Philosophical Classics*) is invaluable for students who cannot read German; and pp. 153-188, especially, expound his main theses, referred to at p. 66, of *The Science of Peace*. The sentence quoted by Mr. Bellairs is the explanation of Fichte's rather obscure proposition that Ego in part=Non-Ego, and Non-Ego in part=Ego. But withal, after having struggled with Fichte, when the student comes to the Indian terminology, he will probably feel that from struggling with air he has 'come home to rest' and then, if he goes back to Fichte, he will understand him much better. Thus the proposition above referred to means that the soul puts on a body and *vice versa*.

uterus. They grow anew. Such is the result of the procession. That which is born, perishes, and *vice versa*. After the removal of the hair, etc., the *jīva* is dressed in clothes and ornaments, and his egoism, his sense of individuality, grows thereby.

The 'real' consecration implies the union of I and This, 'I am This'—the (higher) egoism (or Universalism) of the I permeates the This fully, the entrance into the world and the worldly life (for self-sacrifice) is complete. The sense of I-ness and 'mineness' ('*all is mine*') grows. 'I am this, thus; there is none else; I alone am what I am'. The full cognition of the I and the This and the going forwards of the I into the This—such is the essence of *chūḍākaraṇa*. The loss of its original character (of self-ness) by the I and its complete absorption into the This, the envelopment of the former by the latter, is the real dressing, 'toilette' or make-up.

In imitation thereof the hair and nails are removed in the formal rite and the dress of the world is put on. As the babe grows into the child, his freedom from conventions disappears and his sense of shame, etc., grows. In infancy, there is entire freedom; the infant knows not himself, nor another, *i.e.*, he does not know himself as distinguished from another; all is composed of Self to him, as may be seen in the

behaviour of infants. (The distinguishing of others from oneself, of *meum* and *tuum*, the recognition of *jīvas* other than oneself, is absent in the earliest child-life; that there are others and others' goods to be respected and refrained from is a later idea; the moon is reached for, others' fruits and sweets are seized in the most natural way, living men and women are criticised and appraised to their faces like inanimate toys or animals, clothes are deemed unnecessary, 'I am the monarch of all I survey,' is the natural attitude; for only *oneself*, in imitation of the One Self, is felt and all other living and so-called non-living things and beings are lumped up as the Not-Self; *many* selves and many not-selves are not realised.)

(g) The seventh is the *karṇa-vedha*, the 'ear-boring'. Knowledge of all activity is implied hereby, (*karṇa*, ear, the instrument of hearing and learning, being also connected by archaic etymology with *karṇa*, doing, action, activity); it means the *vedha*, or cutting, piercing, separation or division of self and others with reference to differentiating action. The consciousness is, 'all this is mine, all else, *i.e.*, that which is not mine is useless; this *Samsāra* is the chief fact, and neither the *Ātmā* nor the *Paramātmā*. The affirmation of and entrance upon activity is thus the *karṇa-vedha* sacrament, and the joy of action belongs to it.

The true sacrament signifies: '*This* and not I; I am (or the Aham is) nothing; that which is is *This* only; I am born from *This*.' Such is the belief, view, or knowledge that marks this sacrament. Only after having understood this Samsāra exactly and fully does the need for another (*i.e.*, the Self) arise. Hence the need for the sacrament.

The external representation thereof is the piercing of the ear and the putting on of ear-rings, signifying that there are gems and gold and many other precious things in the world which should be acquired and possessed and enjoyed henceforwards. The sense of mineness increases further thereby.

In the real consecration, knowledge of the whole of *This* is secured to the effect that all the *This* is composed of pleasure and pain and that the sense of mineness persists notwithstanding this unavoidable alloy of pain.¹

¹ Kārṇa-vedha is here practically interpreted as equivalent to kārṇa-bhedha, division of labour, differentiation of occupations or functions. The physiological benefits of ear-boring are not made clear, nor *why* this particular act should mark the separation of occupation. Possibly different kinds of ear-rings might have been used in the early days, like different kinds of 'sacred thread,' to mark such differences of professions and castes, the ear-rings being preliminary to and less final though

more prominent than the 'thread'; both these distinctions, in ear-ring and in thread, have now disappeared. There is also a vague tradition in the land that the operation has certain beneficial effects on physical health, something like vaccination without its inseparable ill effects, for there is no virus injected, and the piercing is, or at least ought to be, done with a needle of gold.

APPENDIX TO SECTION III.

CHAPTER VI. Sub-Section iv.

BY

DR. LOUISE APPEL.

SAMSKĀRAS.

From the explanation given in the text it is clear that the samskāras are intended to be performed at certain definite periods or stages in the formation and course of development of the human body, with the view of bringing about certain results that are beneficial to the growing organism. The first three samskāras described by the author have reference to events in ante-natal life, and when studied in the light of modern medical knowledge the results sought to be attained by the samskāras are recognised as eminently desirable ones; indeed medical science to-day seeks to reach the same results but uses for this purpose the physical methods of modern western science, whereas in the samskāras the superphysical (psychic or occult or metaphysical and subjective) methods of ancient eastern science are employed.

Each of these two methods has its own particular value, the western physical method, belonging to an age of materiality, being perhaps the

more universally applicable at the present day, though the eastern superphysical method, belonging to an age of spirituality, is the more far-reaching and complete, and its results might be usefully combined with and guide the western. With the aid of theosophy and of modern science this is seen to be possible. The samskāras are based ultimately upon certain fundamental truths in Nature which underlie human development or evolution, both spiritual and physical, and a knowledge of the scientific facts of development leads to a clearer understanding of the nature, value and use of the samskāras and points to a common ground and connecting link between the ancient science and the modern.

THE THREE ANTE-NATAL SAMSKĀRAS.

The following are the scientific facts gathered from the text :

The ovum (rajas) having been fertilised by the spermatozoon (vīrya), a process of growth and development in the fertilised ovum at once begins. The process is a three-fold one and therefore comprises three main stages whether viewed from the objective (physical) standpoint or from the subjective (superphysical) standpoint. These physical stages are successive as regards the time in ante-natal life when they are initiated, each stage being definitely marked

off from the others by certain anatomical and physiological characteristics.

The first period includes, on the physical side, all the structural and physiological changes which occur in the fertilised ovum from the moment of fertilisation until the time when the "trunk and limbs and organs" have become clearly defined and the tiny "embryonic body"—a miniature of the human form—is fit and ready for the entrance into it of the *jīva* (the individualised life, or spiritual entity) for whose use the body has been formed, and is to be further developed.

This miniature human form has been "formed by the multiplication" (the cleavage or segmentation) "of the compound atoms" (conjoined pro-nuclei) "of germ and sperm." "Each such atom" (pro-nucleus) "is a trinity" (a complete morphological unit or set of characters) "and possesses the power of multiplication etc.," (the power of evolving through a cycle of life) that "manifests everywhere in the World-process" (the drama of cyclic life). "It is the beginning of reflexion about *Brahman*."

During this first period of growth and development the "*jīvātma*" (the spiritual entity or individuality) "is connected with the atoms of the body in the womb" (with the pro-nuclei, or centre of formative activity and formative

differentiation). When the pro-nuclear activity and differentiation are completed, the *jīvātmā* (individualised life) whose connexion with the pro-nuclei initiated the pro-nuclear or formative activity, "comes and enters into the embryonic body" or miniature human form and the second stage of growth and development begins.

The second stage is "the fixing of the connexion between the *jīva* and the body," or the rendering of the body viable. The "trunk and limbs and organs" of the tiny "embryonic body" or miniature human form which is as yet incapable of living apart from the maternal forces that pulse through it, receives a fresh stream of life or downpour of vital force or energy, and by the new impulse to development which is thereby given, the "embryonic body" is further developed and differentiated and becomes a foetus, or finished embryonic body, capable of carrying on the vital functions of the human organism and of living an independent life of its own. "It is the completion of the consciousness of the I, and the I is the *Ātmanā*."

This period includes therefore on the physical side all the anatomical and physiological modifications by which the "embryonic body" becomes a viable foetus or human organism whose life-forces are centred in the foetal heart, their primal seat, and thence pulsed through the foetal body. About this, Madame Blavatsky writes ;

"The heart is the king, the most important organ in the body of man....The spot in the heart which is the last of all to die, is the seat of life, the centre of all, Brahmā, the first spot that lives in the foetus and the last that dies." (*S. D.*, iii, p. 582.)

With the attainment of viability, "the stay of the *jīva* has been assured" (physical life is possible for the child) and the *third stage* in ante-natal life is entered. It consists in making "known all the conditions and stages that the *jīva* passes through," and is an impressing of the distinctly human characteristics upon the foetal organs and brain of this human foetus or organism which is being fashioned for the use of the incoming entity or spiritual man. On the objective side, the anatomical and physiological changes initiated during this stage of growth, are therefore those which result in the formation of cerebral fissures peculiar to the human brain, and the expansion and growth of the brain cells and allied structures, which fit the human organism for the functioning therein of the human mind, changes which result in the formation of other fissures in the brain besides the primary ones. Keith in his *Human Embryology and Morphology*, page 253 writes: "In the seventh month the fissures on the human brain have a remarkable correspondence to

those on the cerebrum of an ape," and "The neuroblasts in the cortex have reached nearly their full number by the seventh month; after then it is their dendrites and collateral fibres that continue to develop". It is "the conjunction of the I with the this." On the *subjective* side, this period is characterised by the giving to the child of a thinking principle, "that portion of the Divine which goes to animate the personality, consciously separating itself, like a dense but pure shadow, from the Divine Ego, wedges itself into the brain and senses of the foetus, at the completion of its seventh month" and "becomes, as the child grows, a distinct thinking principle in man, its chief agent being the physical brain." (*S. D.*, iii. 511-512).

To one who has studied western science and knows the facts and basic principles of Comparative Embryology, the correctness of this outline is self-evident; it contains no statement which in any way contradicts the observations and researches made in Embryology. The facts observed and recorded by scientists readily find their place in this outline, and there is left upon one's mind the conviction that the author of the *Praṇava Vāda* was familiar with all the essential facts of Comparative Embryology and their bearing upon human life in general, with all the main facts of heredity and of other

mysteries of life and death. The key to the understanding of the ancient teaching is given when the ideas expressed in the eastern books, are put into the technical language of modern science. This has become possible to-day through the work of Dr. J. Beard, whose researches in Comparative Embryology, commenced in 1888 and published in 1904, confirm these ancient teachings—and the teachings of theosophy—in two very important respects, *viz.*

(I) Dr. Beard's researches prove that there is "a morphological continuity of germ-cells from generation to generation;" that "the germ-cells" are not "somatic in origin;" that "they exist prior to the appearance of any trace of a soma;" that the formation of the primary germ-cells takes place "before any trace of an embryo" has been laid down; that one of these primary germ-cells goes "to the unfolding of an embryo to contain the rest" which on its formation "migrate into it along the connexion between embryo and yolk-sac, the yolk-stalk." In these researches "was afforded" says Dr. Beard, "the possibility of following in a distinct and tangible form, and without the assumption of the continuity of an hypothetical, intangible germ-plasm (Weismann), the track of germinal continuity from one generation to the next, and "the formation of an embryo sinks into the

position of being a mere incident in the life-cycle."

About this subject, Madame Blavatsky has written: "*These germinal cells do not have their genesis at all in the body of the individual, but proceed directly from the ancestral germinal cell passed from father to son through long generations.*" (S. D., i. 244). And again, "Weismann in his hereditary germ-theory is very near truth." (S. D., iii. 592). She gained her knowledge of these facts from the researches of eastern science.

(II) "From the worms to man himself," writes Dr. Beard, "the products of the early cleavage are concerned, not in the formation of an embryo, but of an asexual foundation or larva—a series of temporary and transient organs *that precede an embryo* or sexual generation." "By looking at the phenomena in this light it becomes possible to compare together, so as to show their essential identity, the phenomena in the life-cycle of a hydrozoon, a worm, a mollusc, an insect, a fish, a mammal, and a man. And to these must be added the higher plants, or metaphyta. In other words, *it reveals the unity of organic nature!*"¹ Thus do the most

¹ "*A Morphological Continuity of Germ-cells as the Basis of Heredity and Variation,*" by J. Beard, D. Sc., p.133.

recent researches of modern science illustrate and serve to confirm the ancient teachings of the unity of all life. Madame Blavatsky writes : "The human foetus follows in its transformations all the forms that the physical frame of man assumed, throughout the three Kalpas (Rounds). In the present age, the physical embryo is a plant, a reptile, an animal, before it finally becomes man, evolving within himself his own ethereal counterpart, in his turn." (*S. D.*, i. p.206). The form becomes even more highly differentiated and complex, and the powers of the life within show themselves and shine forth through it ever more and more fully and perfectly.

On the *form*-side, if the language of Comparative Embryology is used, the first samskāra denotes the impulse to development from the "fertilisation of the ovum" to the "critical period"; the second samskāra denotes the impulse to development from the "critical period" to the "viability stage of the foetus"; the third samskāra denotes the development from "viability" to "full term."

The author mentions also the subjective side of ante-natal life and he gives its broad outlines: the *jīva* connected with the fertilised ovum and exercising an influence upon the growing physical body throughout the whole of

ante-natal life ; the entrance of the jīva into the physical body making viability possible and laying the foundation for the exercise later of the psychic (mental) faculties which are regarded as distinctly "human," and which distinguish the psychic life of the human mind from the psychic life of the animal mind.

Of the *life-side*—of that which gives the impulse to the development of the form out of the fertilised ovum, western science tells nothing. "The two chief difficulties of the science of Embryology—namely, what are the forces at work in the formation of the foetus, and the *cause* of 'hereditary transmission' of likeness, physical, moral and mental—have never been properly answered ; nor will they ever be solved, till the day when scientists condescend to accept the occult theories." (*S. D.*, i. 243.) "*These germinal cells proceed directly from the ancestral germinal cell passed from father to son through long generations* How will biologists explain the first appearance of this everlasting cell ?" asks Madame Blavatsky. (*S. D.*, i. 244.)

The subjective side of ante-natal life and the influence exercised by the jīva on the development of the fertilised ovum are still unknown to western science,—hence the impassible gulf to-day between western science and religion ; and also the inability to understand and to cope successfully with those social and moral

problems that are stirring profoundly the hearts and minds of men and women in the west; hence too, the many, as yet unanswered questions about heredity, about ways of improving the human race, about man's spiritual nature and immortality, about future life, and about other mysteries of life and death,—all of which are known to eastern science and, when understood, make the institution and use of samskāras intelligible.

“The problem of heredity is almost the greatest one in embryological science” says Dr. Beard. His patient and long continued researches, by western physical methods, have led him to the discovery of a morphological continuity of germ-cells,—a discovery long before made by eastern scientists or occultists who had recourse to the superphysical (clairvoyant) methods of occult subjective science. “No earnest investigator can ignore the immense, the overwhelming importance of this continuity for the science of embryology. It and the various facts associated with it, are bound sooner or later to revolutionise completely the ideas and conceptions of zoologists, anatomists and embryologists.” In these words does Dr. Beard unwittingly testify to the truth and value of the occult science of eastern sages.

THE FOURTH SAMSKĀRA—JĀTA-KARMA.

The completion of the third stage of embryological development is followed by the birth of the child, and for this the fourth *samskāra* is performed. Ante-natal life has provided the *jīva* with a physical body sufficiently developed to permit of its being used as an independent organism wherewith to carry on physiological, psychic and mental activities. But until birth has actually taken place, this independent functioning is still only a possibility, not yet an actuality; the foetal lungs, although perfectly formed, are in the condition known as *atelectasis* (the air-cells not yet expanded and filled with air), and the circulation still includes the passage of the blood through the placenta, and there is a communication between the right and left auricle of the heart.

At birth, with the first breath that the child draws, air enters and expands the *atelectic* lungs. The relative change in blood-pressure thereby produced, causes the Eustachian valve of the heart to close, blood can no longer pass from the right auricle into the left auricle and the placental circulation soon ceases. Other secondary structural changes in the vascular system complete the adaptation of the child's organism to the new conditions and environment; among these, may be mentioned the obliteration of the *Ductus Arteriosus* (? secondary *suṣhumnā*)

some ten or twelve days after birth,—a foetal vessel between the left pulmonary artery and aorta, immediately below the point at which the left carotid artery is given off from the arch of the aorta. Unless the changes in the foetal lungs and heart take place, the physiological activities necessary to independent existence cannot be carried on, and the new-born child cannot live; it will be “still-born”. Therefore the *jāṭa-karma* is “the accompaniment of the success of the wish ‘May I be many,’ *i.e.*, of the wish for progeny”. It is “performed for the maintenance of that success” *i.e.*, for the continued life of the new-born child. “All action being threefold, *viz.*, birth, stay, and death, the endeavour to secure stay naturally follows after birth,” and to secure stay it is necessary that some of the general life force, the energy of the *jīva*, shall be specifically set apart (individualised or differentiated) to carry on independently the vital (physiological) functions of the new-born body, as the “*prāṇa*” of that body. “*Jīva* becomes *prāṇa* only when the child is born and begins to breathe.” (*S. D.*, iii. 545.)

During intra-uterine life, the child's body is bathed by the *Liquor Amnii* of the ovum, and the effect of the rhythmical contractions of the uterus upon this bag of fluid will, in accordance with the laws of hydrostatics, be such as to

produce general rhythmical wave-like forms of stimuli on the nerve ends of the foetal body which call forth the seemingly "spontaneous" rhythmical activities, termed microkinesis and micropsychosis. In this way the child's nervous system is developed during the intra-uterine life up to the point of ability to respond to general stimuli and at birth readily shows forth these "spontaneous" forms of general activity. But, after birth, there is a change of environment, and external stimuli can reach the nerve-ends in the ordinary way and give rise to definite, localised, "respondent" forms of activity—local (or specific) sensory motor responses or reactions,—"sensations" and "actions" as they are technically called. By these definite responses or reactions to definite external stimuli, specialised (individualised) sensory and motor paths are developed in the brain and spinal cord, "sensory and motor tracts," and thus the physical foundations are laid which later make intellectual activity possible. Among the early sensations and actions may be noted those which are referred to the skin and to the respiratory and digestive tracts, viz., tactile sensations and the infant's "cry" or "vocal act" when there is bodily discomfort, and the infant's "sucking" or "buccal act" when any object is put into its mouth. "In the corresponding true consecra-

tion the idea is 'What is this, of which I have become aware? What accrues to me by that which this is?'" i.e., by that awareness of something ("sensation") which I have experienced? It would seem, therefore, that on the subjective side, the *jāṭa-karma* refers to the experiencing or becoming aware of external stimuli that affect the nerve-ends of the organism, or to the development of the "Sensation-subjective" state, upon which the evolution of the concrete mind and intellectual faculties of the child depend; for as Madame Blavatsky writes: "Mind as we know it, is resolvable into states of consciousness, of varying duration, intensity, complexity, etc., all, in the ultimate, resting on sensation." (*S. D.*, i. 31.)

THE FIFTH SAMSKĀRA—NĀMA-KARĀṆA.

"Brahman is one" asserts the Unity of all Life or Consciousness; all comes from and is God; "still separateness appears therein" because of the many separate organisms or forms, in which that Life or Consciousness is focussed or individualised for the gaining of individual experience,—"the reason for all evolution" being "the gaining of experience." (*S. D.*, iii. 559.)

"And those that appear separate have separate names also fitly," because each functions and works, in his own separate form or organism,

as an individualised Life, or Spirit, or Name, evolving his own separative mind, both abstract and concrete—and his own individual consciousness. “In truth however all names belong to all,” because all individuals or individualised lives originate in the same way from the One Life which has been focussed in a multitude of forms or germinal cells evolving in the same way, though at different stages and in varied order of detail. An individualised life consists, therefore, always of a form or body (the This) in which a ray of the One Life is focussed, and of the Life (the I) which is individualised as a ray in that particular form, between which and itself a particular definite inter-relation is thereby established. The “true naming” or “the thinking of the This by the I and of the I by the This,” expresses this inter-relation established between the Form and the Consciousness, and is a “mutual cognition between them, so to say,” or a state of consciousness which is common to both.

Western experimental (Practical) Psychology is still in its infancy, so it is difficult to convey eastern psychological knowledge, because of the lack of scientific terms in which to express the eastern ideas. On the objective side, this *samskāra* may perhaps best be described as concerned with the development of those parts

of the nervous system by which the various organs and other parts of the body become especially connected with, or related to, the developing consciousness of the child; and, on the subjective side would include therefore all so-called "organic or internal sensations," i.e., the internal sensations of strain, pressure, the muscular sense, articular sense, and so on. Every internal body-change or body-activity, produces a corresponding change in the consciousness, an "internal or organic sensation". Every internal consciousness-change or consciousness-activity, produces a corresponding internal bodily-change and therefore "internal or organic sensation." The "internal or organic sensation" is common to both body-activity and consciousness-activity, is essential to each of them, and may call forth both of them, so that, a body-activity (Eṭaṭ utterance) and consciousness-activity (Aham utterance) being both called forth, Eṭaṭ may be said to be included in Aham and Aham in Eṭaṭ, the inter-relation or inter-connexion being "organic sensation" belonging to both and to either. "The name given to an object depends upon the nature of the cognition connected therewith" i.e., depends upon the "internal or organic sensation" connected therewith, depends upon the child's biological organism. This is, possibly, the explanation, of Grimm's Law; slight differences in the human

biological organism becoming exaggerated by isolation from other similar human biological organisms, with the result that the “organic sensations” and vocal sounds elicited by any group of “organic sensations” differ slightly in these cases—and these vocal-sound differences having been observed and tabulated the corresponding names in different languages were found to have a common element (factor) and a variable element (factor) now spoken of as Grimm’s Law. “To frame sounds on the basis of that knowledge is to give names whereby things are recognised”, *not* artificial or partial names that express certain attributes or qualities possessed by the biological organism and which consist of variable elements, but real, true names which express the summation of the series of all its inherent “organic sensation-possibilities,” in the same way in which an algebraical formula may be said to express the summation of the series of all its algebraical term-possibilities, as *e.g.*, does the Binomial Theorem in Mathematics.

THE SIXTH SAMSKĀRA—THE CHŪḌĀ-KARAṆA.

“The real consecration implies the union of I and This, ‘I am this’—the egoism of the I permeates the This fully, and the entrance into the world and the worldly life is complete.” For as Madame Blavatsky says: “Manas, the Mind Ego, does not accomplish its full union with the child before

he is six or seven years of age, before which period, even according to the canon of the Church and Law, no child is deemed responsible. Manas becomes a prisoner, one with the body, only at that age." (*S. D.*, iii. 506.)

The changes peculiar to this development appear on the objective side to consist in the formation of links or paths between the vaso-motor nervous systems and the cerebrum; and on the subjective side, to refer to the evolution of the psychic life called by western psychologists 'Affection,' or 'Feeling' and defined by Titchener as 'the conscious process' arising from the way in which an organism receives a particular impression made upon it.¹ The sense of "mineness" increases when the psychic 'affective' element is added to the psychic 'sensory' element; and the "entire freedom" from conventions, from sense of shame etc., in infancy, begins to be lost. The infant did not know himself as distinguished from another, because the "I" had not as yet gone "forward into the This." "The full cognition of the I and the This, and the going forward of the I into the This" is the essence of the *chūdā-karapa*. The result is "the loss of its original character by the I,"—i.e., of the 'pure sensory' or 'sensation-subjective' state, and "its complete

¹ Titchener's *Outlines of Psychology*, Edit. 1902, p. 102.

entrance into the This, the enveloping of the former by the latter"; the psychic sensory element is enveloped by the psychic affective element. The *jīva* has been born to "accomplish the work of the World-process" and the rite indicates the fact that henceforth this *jīva* engages in work,—the first work being the identification of itself (himself) with the functioning of the new physical body that he is to use. This identification of himself with the body-changes or sensations, is dependent upon 'affection' or 'feeling,' and therefore "the real consecration implies the union of I and This, 'I am This.'"

THE SEVENTH SAMSKĀRA—KARṆA-VEḌHA.

"Knowledge of all activity is implied" by the *karṇa-veḍha* or 'ear-boring.' The *jīva* is in possession of a biological organism with which it has learnt to consciously identify itself, and through which it can experience states of consciousness, made up of "sensations," "internal or organic sensations," and "affections or feeling." It realises that "all this is mine, all else, *i. e.*, that which is not mine is useless"; that this *samsāra*, or experience, or succession of states of consciousness, is the "chief fact, and neither the *Ātmā* nor the *Paramātmā*." Having realised and affirmed this, the *jīva* enters upon activity, dissociating and re-associating the elements into more and more complex conscious-

ness-states, the dissociation of the 'affection-element' from the other elements being interpreted as 'pain,' the association of the 'affection-element' with new combinations of the other elements being interpreted as 'pleasure'; thus, "the sense of mineness increases further."

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER VI. (*Continued.*) Sub-Section (v).

THE SACRAMENTS OF THE YAJUR VEDA.

The eighth sacrament, *upa-nayana*, investiture with the sacred thread.—Study and preparation for future duty.

The eighth sacrament is the *vrata-bandha*, the 'binding on of the vow,' or *upa-viṭa* 'approach'. Having obtained a partial knowledge of the operations of the World-process and of 'mineness,' the *jīva* thinks: 'This is so, generally, but I should now acquire a more detailed knowledge of the methods, the laws, the workers etc., of this World-process.' And, in consequence, he turns inward, he begins to reflect: 'In what ways should the World-process be accomplished; what are the laws underlying it,' and so on. In order to find out all this the study of subjective science is necessary. His parents also wish him to engage in such study, as the life-work of the twice-born indispensably requires such knowledge, and they therefore employ their child in the pursuit thereof. The commencement of the study is marked by a rejoicing. The *upa-viṭa*-ceremony is performed to ward off all future hindrances. After

performing the rite, they send him away with the teacher : ' Go and learn the truth of B r a h m a n, in the fullness of I-This-Not ; the I is such, the This is such, the conjunction of the two is such, the Not is such, the conjunction of the Not and the This is such, the conjunctions of Not and I, and of Not with I and This are such, and so on ; and having learnt all this, engage in the accomplishment of the I-This-Not.'

In the true consecration, the j ī v a, harassed with the worries of the world, distractedly asks itself : ' What is all this ; is This only to be ever believed in, (must I rest content, for ever, with a blind and helpless acceptance of the unintelligibility of this condition of things,) must I ever go on circling in this round of work, though it is so full of misery ? ' And gradually he sinks into despondency and despair. At this stage, he who knows the whole truth of the This, becomes his teacher and instructs him : ' Such is the World-process, this is necessary, this is otherwise ; know the I, know the This, know the Not, their permutations, combinations and conjunctions.' Thus does the true master teach, and this is the true u p a n a y a n a, up-leading.

There is, indeed, only one true Ruler and Ā c h ā r y a of this whole World-process, and That is defined and designated by I-This-Not ; That supreme Teacher is always inspiring it. (But, in each world-system,) there is also a

separate āchārya (Viṣṇu or one of his line of sub-hierarchs ?) of the I alone ; another (Brahmā, etc. ?) of the This : another (Shiva, etc. ?) of the Not ; another (Mahā-Viṣṇu, etc. ?) of the conjunction of the Three, and so on. As the methods and the laws of the World-process are many, so are the teachers. In accordance with this law, the teacher of each method or department of the world performs the appropriate consecration or initiation of the jīva connected with that method or department. Each jīva is guided by the ruler of the department to which it belongs.¹ Hence the need of a saḍ-guru, a true master, for the rite of saḍ-upanayana.

In the ceremony the guru teaches the practising of the *Gāyatrī*, then he teaches him the *Veda*. Such study is true brahmacharya. The preceptor teaches further : Such power resides in sound ; by the utterance of such a sound such

¹ Compare the theosophical doctrine of the sub-division of all jīvas into various rays, seven being specially mentioned ; also the division into sāttvika, rājasa, and tāmasa according to the *Gītā* and the *Purānas*. The division by jñāna, ichchhā and kriyā as propounded here, with its permutations and combinations, illuminates and permeates all such, for all further sub-division by fives or sevens or tens and twelves and eighteens, etc., are only permutations and combinations of the primal three.

a result happens; such a transformation is brought about by such a change in the succession of the sounds; these two, (result and result, or sound and result, or sound and sound,) are joined together by such and such a cause, or disjoined by such another; such is the root-cause or essence of disjunction and conjunction, such their fruit, such the proper time, etc.; this should be done, this avoided; and so on.

All this is represented in the formal rite also. The guru first teaches the *Gāyatrī* together with the *Pranava*, then enjoins japa or repetition thereof. Japa is the constant recollection of the word *with its meaning*. This practice is distributed over the morning, the noon and the evening. On awaking in the morning the *Gāyatrī* together with the *Pranava* should be called to mind. Then, the two continuing to be borne in mind as the source of everything, the daily study should be entered on. Some one *Anga*, 'limb' or portion of the methods, manifestations or kinds of the This should be studied, according to the student's capacity. This process is to be repeated at noon and again in the evening.

To 'realise in thought,' *sandhyākāraṇa*, that the *Pranava* and the *Gāyatrī* are the foundation of all, and to make sure what the cause, the motive, of the actions that we have performed is—this is the purpose of *sandhyā*. The word

means: *sa my a k*, thoroughly, completely, well, *ḍ h y ā y a ṭ ī*, thinks, considers, ponders, *sa r v ā n*, all things.¹

In this interpretation, *ḍ h y ā n a* refers to the root and *sa r v a* to the knowledge. The significance is that all knowledge should be traced to its single central root and source in the *Gāyatrī* (and derived genetically from one chief principle, for otherwise it remains unsystematised and therefore unscientific.)²

¹ This interpretation is not in strict accordance with modern Samskr̥ṭ grammar. But like all 'occult,' i. e., truly scientific words and ideas, the word has many meanings and applications, each correct and each allied with all others. *San ḍ h y ā* is the 'joining-time' of day and night, and of forenoon and afternoon, which is the fit time, especially seasonable and favourable, for the 'joining' together of the individual with the universal in the higher *sa m ā ḍ h i* (of which it is but another form), of the human *jīva* with the Solar Logos or other deity, in consciousness, in the lower *sa m ā ḍ h i*, of the 'synthesising and placing together' of separate-seeming things with each other by careful and 'proper thinking,' and so on.

² The statement occurs frequently that the *Praṇava* is all, that the *Mahā-Vākyas* and the *Gāyatrī* are the sources of the *Veḍas*, and the *Veḍas* the foundation of the Universe and so on. And this is also a traditional article of faith with the Hindū at the present day, though what it means he

Morning, noon, and eve correspond to the three times, past, present and future, and to the does not know at all. Of course, this whole book is just an explanation of what it means. Yet, for the convenience of the 'modern' reader, to bring the idea a little nearer home to him, to make it appear a little less fanciful, we might try to put it in the nutshell of a foot-note. AUM means the Self, the Not-Self, and the Relation between them, according to the 'technical convention' explained in this work. Now, if so, then, when we have mentioned these three, have we not exhausted all things and everything? There is obviously nothing left, that falls outside these. These make up the World-process. In the second place, what are the main features, the principal appearances, that are most prominently and most continuously manifest in this manifestation that we call the World-process? Are they not birth and death, integration and disintegration, growth and decay, origin and dissolution? These are unmistakably the very heart-beat, the pulse, the rhythm and swing of all this procession. And are not these 'methods' of manifestation best described by 'I-This' and 'This-not'? Indeed, the permutations and combinations of A, U and M are the best descriptions of these and all subordinate methods that are variations of these; and such permutations and combinations are the *Mahā-Vākyas*. In the third place, what is the main law that underlies all these methods of manifestation? Is it not the triple law of the indestructibility of matter, the conservation of energy

Self, the Not-Self, and the Negation. The *Ātma* is the dawn; herein the I revels alone in itself, free, fresh, innocent of all world-knowledge. Hence the supreme beauty of the dawn. The *Ātma*, unlimited, unbounded, stretching and streaming like the rays of the rising sun, its visible symbol, in all directions—this itself is all light and all glory, *prabhā*; and that wherein this light alone exists, that is the morning, *prabhāṭa*, the dawn. At that time, the Self Itself shines forth, *bhāṭi*, without effort, supremely. Then comes the midday, connected with *Samsāra*, wherein the Self has entered into the Not-Self, and is full of action, and also full of knowledge. The evening is related to the Negation and is the time for the ceasing of all the interaction of the Self and the Not-Self. The three *sandhyās* thus refer respectively to the I, the This, and the Not. After the evening comes the night, wherein takes place the work of dissolution, *pralaya*, or Not-This-I (the Logion reversed).

and the transformation of motion? But the *Gūyaṭrī* is the embodiment of this law, (see note on *sandhyā*, at the end of this chapter, for fuller expansion of this statement); and the *Veḍas* and subsidiary scriptures are but the detailed commentaries on these three, the *Praṇava*, the *Mahāvākyas* and the *Gūyaṭrī*. And if this be really so, then may we not say that the traditional article of faith is justified?

From another standpoint, because of the endless permutations and combinations of I-This-Not, *saṇḍhyās* are also endless in number and not merely three.

Only the *jīva* that has passed through *upa-nayana* is entitled to the *saṇḍhyā*; such only can think *Brahman*, and such thinking only is true *saṇḍhya*. The relating of *Brahman* or I-This-Not with time results in *jñāna*, *ichchhā* and *kriyā*, the summation being *samādhī*, absorption, mergence, rapport, rapture, union or identification with the object of attention or consciousness. Those who have received the *upa-nayana* according to the rule of the realisation of the nature of cognition, desire and action are entitled to the three *saṇḍhyās*. The *saṇḍhyā* is thus of three kinds, *sāttvikī*, *rājasī* and *ṭāmasī* respectively, as referring to cognition, action, or desire. This triple sub-division is present in each of the three *saṇḍhyās*, of the morning, the noon and the evening. Hence the declaration: The morning-*saṇḍhyā* is best with the stars still shining, middling with the stars vanished, poorest with the sun risen; so too the midday is threefold, with forenoon, noon and afternoon; and, finally, the evening *saṇḍhyā* is best with the sun still shining, middling with the sun set, and poorest with the stars risen. The significance of these distinctions should be grasped by reference to

the distinction of cognition, desire, and action. With the stars still shining, the dawn is only being born; when the stars are gone the dawn is full, and when it is full then contact with *samsāra* has begun and the free pure light of the Self no longer shines unalloyed; hence, the *sandhyā* with the stars unvanishing, in the infancy of the dawn, is the best and most completely connected with cognition. The mid-dling is the one with the stars gone and the light of the dawn at full; the birds and the beasts and other beings have begun their *samsāra*-work then. With the sun risen the *sandhyā* merges in *samsāra* and comes under 'negation, *niṣhīdḍha*', the dawn is practically dead, heat, etc., come into play and light and shade begin to appear in conjunction. Similarly, with regard to the midday, action has its infancy in the forenoon, its prime at noon, and its decay in the afternoon. The evening *sandhyā* is best with the sun unset, as that is the fit time for the closing of the pursuit of knowledge and activity; again, even immediately after sunset, there is still some light left for winding up the day's work; but with the stars

¹ The word *niṣhīdḍha* in the text has the technical meaning of 'negation' everywhere, but here it has also the ordinary significance of 'prohibited'. In modern Hindū life, too, the 'negative' *sandhyās* are prohibited.

risen, *saṇḍhyā* falls within the time of *pralaya* and is *niṣhiḍḍha* (as before)¹. There is a similar triplicity in the night also, corresponding

¹ The morning *saṇḍhyā* seems especially to be a direction of the mind towards, and a preparation for the accumulation of, knowledge, and is therefore followed by the daily study of the forenoon, even during the household life. The midday *saṇḍhyā* is similarly, a preparation for action, for the day's work, for the most strenuous part of which work the fit time is the afternoon. Finally, the evening *saṇḍhyā* is a preliminary to a peaceful night of rest, after the winding up of the day's work. This seems to have been the ideal, possibly the real, routine of life amongst the older nations and societies, and is prescribed in the current *Smṛtis* or works of Hīndū religious law. It is possible, of course, only in a happier condition of the social organisation of humanity, such as would allow a comparatively short afternoon's bread-winning work to suffice for the supply of the needs of the twenty-four hours. At the same time it is worth noting that, though not possible to realise in its ideal perfection amidst present-day conditions, still this is the routine which is followed, in its general outlines by a considerable part of mankind to-day; accumulation of information, knowledge, reading of the daily papers if nothing else, in the mornings, business in the middle of the day, recreation and rest in the evenings, seems to be generally ordained by the physical laws of nature. The text is not quite clear

to the A, U, and M. The night too is *sāttvikī*, *rājasi* and *tāmasī*, or cognitive, active and conative.

as to whether the *afternoon* is the fittest time for the climax of business-activity or the noon; in India, the precise noon is generally regarded, and, when possible, treated, as the time for a little repose, a *siesta*, and when so treated, especially in the summers, is conducive to health. Possibly, if the text was written in the cooler, northern, Himālayan portion of India, it did not take sufficient cognisance of this fact; but the very vagueness of the language of the text here, and the possibility of interpreting it in two ways, seems to indicate that the different senses would apply to different climatic conditions, the logical principle of the sub-divisions being supported by other facts not discernible by a modern reader of the text, as it stands, by itself, without further elucidations. Clearly the text would not apply to the polar regions, without being supplemented.

It may also be noted that in the *brahmacharya* stage, the 'business' of the midday and the winding up of the evening would also take on the form of *study* predominantly; while in the household stage, the 'study' of the morning would be similarly colored and guided by the main object of the stage, and be, predominantly, study of a kind directly conducive to the success of the business; in the 'forest' stage, all three would be prevailingly tinged with 'sacrifice'; while, finally, in the condition of the wanderer, they would all be merged in the 'summation'.

All beings thus follow the succession of day and night, and in these two taken together with the *saṇḍhyā* we see the Trinity reappear as everywhere else. Generally speaking, the morning *saṇḍhyā* is *sāttvikī*, the noonday *rājāsī*, and the evening one *ṭāmasī*; though each of these three kinds reappears again as a sub-division of each. Of all who have received the *upa-nayana*, this observance of the *saṇḍhyā* is the duty and the right; as the *ḍhyāna* or fixed thought is, so is the gain to the *jīva*; *ḍhyāna* is *Brahman*; *ḍhyātā*, the thinker, is *Brahman*; *ḍhyeya*, the object thought, is *Brahman* too. Hence (as *Manu* ordains): He who observeth not the morning *saṇḍhyā*, nor observeth the evening *saṇḍhyā*, like a *śūdra* should he be excluded from all work wherein the twice-born should officiate. For the inference as to such a one is that he pursues not nor even aspires after *Brahman*, and has not apperception, the subjective consciousness, but wears only the visible thread and is twice-born but in name¹.

¹ Compare the interpretation of 'twice-born' by James in his *Varieties of Religious Experience*. He who has not longed after an explanation of the paradoxes of the world, who has not achieved the Self and the Self-consciousness which enables us 'to see ourselves as others see us,' who is not able to understand and deal with other selves as with him-

Various acts, āchamana, prāṇāyāma, muḍrā etc., are prescribed for the sandhyā also.¹

Āchamana is the preparatory purification, by means of water, for entrance into meditation on and realisation of Brahman. The water is consecrated by the power of a mantra and then drunk for the purification of the heart. The power of sound is the chief of all forces (at the present stage of evolution, its substratum, ākāśha, being the subtlest and most potent element so far manifested); hence the consecration with the sound of the mantra; without the mantra, the āchamana is worthless.

self, he is not twice-born, not a true 'gentleman,' (for he *cannot be gentle* to others unless he consciously or subconsciously and instinctively knows them to be himself and so can put himself in the position of others).

¹ Certain other accessories of meditation, aṅga-nyāsa, kara-nyāsa, etc., are spoken of and endeavoured to be interpreted in the *Introduction to The Bhagavad-Gītā* by Annie Besant and Bhagavān Dās. For details as to current interpretations of prāṇāyāma, muḍrā, āsana, etc., the *Gheraṇḍa Samhitā*, translated by Śrīśh Chandra Bose, may be consulted. One distinction between muḍrā and āsana may be made by regarding the former as 'gesture, expression, attitude' and the latter as 'posture'.

Prāṇāyāma is threefold, as said before, *kumbhaka*, *rechaka* and *pūrakā*, retention, expiration, and inspiration. The *samsāra* appears and manifests by and in the way of these three only, for this triplet appears in every atom in every moment. 'Know Brahman to be such' (i.e., to consist of this triple movement—this is the result of *prāṇāyāma* in its metaphysical significance.)

Muḍrā is mutual conjunction. We see that one object is born from another; that after the birth, the producer disappears; that another is born from that produced object again, and the latter disappears in turn. This oscillation of birth and disappearance proceeds apace, endlessly, by means of mutual conjunction. Of such *yoga*¹ or conjunction, there are twenty-four (principal) methods, and these are indicated by the twenty-four *muḍras*, for the same reasons for which, as explained before, the twenty-four letters of the *Gāyatrī* indicate twenty-four laws or methods. 'Such is the state of the

¹As in the case of so many other Samskr̥t derivations, the word *yoga* here has a double significance and the two meanings have an alliance which appears on going back to the root. *Yoga-muḍrā* is a gesture, an arrangement, a method of balancing and 'joining' together of the limbs, corresponding to a method of *yoga*, meditation, 'conjunction' of thinker and object thought.

world,' 'this is so'—bearing such thoughts in the mind, to endeavour to conjoin and unify all—this is the practice of *m u ḍ r ā*. Its essential nature is the thought, 'this has to be, and therefore I am thus also.' The various *m u ḍ r ā*s are: (1) I-I, (2) This-This, (3) I-I-This, (4) This-This-I, (5) This-This-Not, (6) Not-Not-This, (7) Not-This-I, and so on, altogether twenty-four¹. In the verity wherein all are one, a *m u ḍ r ā* has no use, so too there is nothing impure or pure, no sin and no merit; but all is necessary and connected with all under the double law of necessity and contingency, limitation or definition and endlessness or absence of limit,—to think thus is to perform the *m ā n a s a - s n ā n a* the mental bath, (for securing mental cleanliness and purity)².

Knowing all as one, the self is purified and becomes *Brahman*. The external representation thereof is the bath in water consecrated with a *mantra*, promotive of that thought of unity.

The full procedure of the *s a n ḍ h y ā* is as follows:— Sit down in a steady posture, in a

¹ It may be remembered that the *R̥g-Veda* was said to have 24 *maṇḍlas*, and *kriyā* also said to be of 24 kinds and so on. The reason for these numbers is not quite clear.

² As the *Bhagavad Gītā* says: 'There is no purifier like unto knowledge.' iv. 38.

solitary place, and think in such thoughts and words as these: What is duty, what is Brahman, what is I, what is This, what is the Relation between them. After this questioning repeat the manṭra (the Logion) that is the answer thereto. This is dhyāna. Then sprinkle water all around you after energising it with the appropriate manṭra. This too indicates the unity of the separable (in the all enclosing circle)¹. Thereafter, side by side with the endeavour to realise the unity of the Three, the necessity of and present in this fact should be sought. Then make the saṅkalpa with the consciousness first of the I, and then of the appearance of the Many. The saṅkalpa is the imitation of the idea 'I am this many-ness'. Then make an āchamana, again endeavouring to realise purity. Then make the prāṇāyāma according to rule. (Then, or concurrently with the prāṇāyāma) the *Gāyatrī* should be dhāraṇiyā, 'borne in mind,' together with the *Pranava* and the three *Vyāhṛtis*, (Bhūh, Bhuvah and Svah). If, gradually, the power of the jīva increases, then

¹ This states only the metaphysical aspect. The superphysical and physical significance is besides this. The process is said to have the effect of completing the 'self-containment' and freedom from outer interruption and also protection from evil disturbances, that is needed for successful meditation.

the *Gāyatrī* should be practised in all its fullness, *i.e.*, with the *Praṇava* and all the seven *Vyāhṛtis*, as including all laws and methods and being the support of all supports. *Dhāraṇa* means conduct (in or of consciousness?) harmonious (with the sense of the *Gāyatrī*). *Mudrā* is of the nature of complete knowledge of the methods and laws of the World-process in all their conjunctions and disjunctions. The *Gāyatrī* should be recited in the proper *mudrā*, posture, *i.e.*, while in the appropriate attitude of mind and body, and its significance pondered. With constant practice the conduct of the whole life of the *jīva* begins gradually to accord with that significance. Hence the aphorism of the *Yoga-Sūtra*: *Japa* of It is the pondering of Its meaning. Or of the *Brahma-sūtra*: Thinking on the sense (of words) is for the sake of (attaining to) conduct (in harmony with that sense).

For such reasons should the *sandhyā*, all-helping and all-supporting, be understood clearly and practised diligently as prescribed in the ordinance: 'Observe the *sandhyā*, day by day.' 'He that diligently pursueth the *sandhyā* at all three times, the *sandhyā* that discovereth the final truth of all things, he obtaineth the Supreme Essence, the Truth that is sensed by the highest sense alone.' Thus

should Brahman be pondered, and step by step, after the *upa-nayana*, should the *Āṅgas*, the *Upāṅgas* and the *Veḍas* with the *Upaniṣhats*, *Brāhmaṇas* and *Upa-veḍas*, all be studied. Thereafter, when the great Truth of all things has been grasped, the Supreme Refuge of all beings attained, and thereby the due capacity secured for the work which is the work of Brahman, the work of the World-process, then should that work, the work of the household, be undertaken.

NOTE.—In order to appreciate fully the significance of the *sandhyā*, to enter into the spirit of it, it is, necessary to have arrived at the point of view from which consciousness appears as the supreme fact and force in the World-process, guiding, governing, indeed creating all its manifestations.

Once this is realised the performance of the *sandhyā*, meditation, is seen to be practically the only means of securing power and carrying on the work of life; and it is also seen that those who do not practise it deliberately and with formality do so sub-consciously and irregularly. All thinking is seeking, seeking to establish relations, and all seeking is prayer; and therefore not only all thought, but indeed all activity, effort, aspiration, is such, addressed sub-consciously or deliberately, either to the Total Whole, or an individual being. 'To win by one's own exertion' is also to pray to the Universal Storehouse, in the form of *wishing* ardently. As described here, and

as practised in various forms in modern Hindū life, the essence of it is the drawing in, by means of an exertion of or within consciousness, of nourishment and force from some great fount and reservoir of it. Force, power, energy, etc., cannot come to one place and be used by an individual without being drawn away from some other place or person; this fact we see summed up in the laws of the conservation of energy or persistence of force, the transformation of motion, and the indestructibility of matter. The *Gāyatrī*-prayer is only a practical application to daily life, on the mental plane, of this triple law, as said in a previous footnote. On the physical plane, for the support of our physical life, we draw the necessary nourishment from the earth, in the shape of solids, liquids, gases, ethers, etc., directing our consciousness (or sub-consciousness) that way and using the necessary instruments; and the earth draws her nourishment and vitality from the sun, which again draws its food from some higher sun and so on endlessly, the *pralaya* or dissolution of one system conducing to the *sarga* or creation of another and *vice versa*, in an endless chain of transformation and balancing. And this goes on not only on our physical plane, but on an endless number of planes. To recapitulate what has already been said in a previous note, our world-system deals with seven such planes, represented by the seven *Vyāhṛtis* or 'exclamations' that are uttered with the *Gāyatrī*, but present humanity has reached up to and developed the third only and not

the subtler four. Hence, the *Gāyatrī*—which is an invocation of the sun, the Mahā-Viṣṇu, the central fount and source of all the life on every plane of our world-system, and a prayer, a direction of the consciousness, to him, ‘to inspire *our* intelligence,’ the collective intelligence of the whole of humanity, so as to inspire sympathetic co-operation and mutual good-will and help—is to be directed to and practised upon the *third* plane, Svah, the matter of which is the matter which in us *is intelligence*, mind-stuff, mental matter. The other two planes, the physical and astral, are also named, as Bhūh and Bhuvah, respectively, and the prayer indirectly covers them, but is mainly directed towards the intelligence-inspiring forces of the sun, for the mind is the most important feature, the most prominent and indeed differentiating characteristic of humanity, (from the Samskr̥t root *mān*, to think) and governs its life on the other two planes. If the intelligence were perfect, the life of the other two planes would be made perfect also. When the other subtler planes come into manifestation in the life of our humanity, and become to us as the Svah plane is now, and the less subtle planes including the Svah become as the physical plane is now, then ‘the power of the *jīva* increasing,’ he will reach up to and work with the higher *Vyāhṛtis*. *Maṇṭras*, postures, etc., are helpful, indeed sometimes necessary, for these meditations, in the same way that implements and instruments and right ways of holding tools are helpful, nay indispensable, for the

successful performance of the work of ordinary life. In order to appreciate the value of *mudrās*, the psycho-physical parallelism between conditions of body, especially of all sensor and motor organs, and states of consciousness should be studied; *e. g.*, the eye-balls mechanically turn up during sleep, and to turn up the eyeballs consciously will promote sleep, or to turn them towards the frontal sinus at the root of the nose will help to bring on that semi-comatose condition wherein consciousness does not merge into sleep, but tends into deliberate and self-controlled clairvoyance; when we think of our heart, endeavouring to concentrate the mind or consciousness there (*Yoga-Sūtra*, iii, 1.) the eyeballs automatically turn towards the tip of the nose, so to consciously turn them to the tip of the nose will help *ḍhāraṇā* in the heart; during intense concentration of attention on any subject, the breathing becomes almost imperceptible, and to regulate the breathing deliberately will help such concentration, *vice versa*; during certain activities of mind or body, certain nerve-centres or nerves are excited in a special degree, and to excite the latter deliberately by the concentration of consciousness on them will promote those activities in turn, *e. g.*, it has been found in hypnotic experiments that the suggestion of a gesture has been followed by a corresponding emotion in the subject; thus if it was suggested to him to contract his brows in a frown and clench his fist, he did so and also showed all other symptoms of being evidently angry; even mental moods

which are predominantly intellectual have also their characteristic physical accompaniments, and *vice versa*, as for instance, the 'expressive' gestures of orators and teachers. And so on. Indeed the science of the *saṇḍhyā* is but the science of *yoga*; it is a psycho-physical science which gives to mind as well as body the due share of each, regarding both as equally important. And because the general principles underlying it are true and applicable everywhere and on all scales, the education of a child that is just beginning its alphabet as well as the educating of a consciousness that could cope with the affairs of a whole solar system, therefore is such great stress laid upon the regular performance of *saṇḍhyā* in the Hindū religious books.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER VI. (*Continued.*)—Sub-Section (vi).

THE SACRAMENTS OF THE YAJUR-VEĀ.

The ninth to the fifteenth sacraments.—(9) The 'bath-rite' closing study.—(10) Marriage.—(11) The home-coming with the bride.—(12) The second bringing of the bride.—(13) Parentage.—(14) Progenition.—(15) Retirement from the household.

(i) The ninth sacrament is the *snāṭa-vraṭa*, which marks the completion of the *brahmacharya* stage. After such completion, the knowledge of *Brahman* having been gained, there arises the desire to become *Brahman*, and the looking forward to the performance of the work of *Brahman*. This is the *snāṭa-vraṭa*, the 'bath-rite,' the ceremonial bath which marks the completion of the student-life and the beginning of the household. Its real aspect signifies such ideas as these: The accomplishment of the truth of *Brahman* is to be brought about; by what method may this be done?; the manner of bringing about the conjunction of the I with the This, and the fruit of that conjunction should be pursued, etc. The unreal form and external representation thereof is the looking for a bride: Should I marry

such an one or such another; is the family free of defect, or, if not, is the defect or disease curable; does it possess positive merits which counterbalance the demerits, or is it merely negatively free of defects; if I marry such an one, what will be the consequence? And so on.

(j) The tenth sacrament is uḍvāha, marriage. When the development and maturity of the seed are complete and strong in him, and kāma or creative desire moves thereto, then should the youth marry a maid younger than himself. The work of Brahman is accomplished thereby. The idea thereof is, 'May I become many.' And there is a joy and an elation corresponding to it. Here, in this state of marriage, under the guidance of the bride's and bridegroom's knowledge of Brahman, arises a unity of work, a co-operation, a similarity of interests, an assonance of temperaments, and a unanimity of thought and opinion between the man and the woman. The husband is the Self, the wife is the Not-Self, and their union, their common tastes and temper, all their communion, in short, is of the nature of the Negation¹.

¹ The word negation has a somewhat startling effect in such a connexion, even after the explanations that have been given before, of its full significance and its technical employment in this work. But, to show that even that current sense of the word which is the chief cause of this startling

Such is the sacrament of marriage; *kriyā* predominates therein and it is one of the principal *samskāras*.

The true consecration here is the conjunction of I and This, *Puruṣha* and *Prakṛti*, Self and Not-Self, as already explained before. It is true that these two are never separate, yet such separation and reunion take place in appearance, in connexion with action and succession. And all this marriage, etc., is an imitation of that fact.

Brahma-charya should be observed equally by youth and maiden. The marriage of a *brahma-chārī* youth with a *brahma-chārīṇī* maiden is the most praiseworthy. When both know *Brahman*, they will not suffer from the violence of joys and sorrows, breach of rules and inobservance of regular times, and consequent disturbances and diseases of mind and body. The pair will do the work of the household with inner freedom and happiness, unattached and yet attached to all, and knowing all effect, is also not altogether without an application here, it may be noted that while, in the fact of marriage, there is clearly a unification, on the one hand, there is also, on the other hand, a negation of utter identification implied in the very difference of nature and individuality of the two; connexion, relation, is, essentially, an agreement in difference, an affirmation in negation.

to be one and the same. On the other hand, as is generally recognised, marriage without a preceding and successful *brahma-charya* brings only unhappiness; for the setting right of disturbances, unavoidable in the stress of the household life, is possible only by means of the knowledge contained in the *Vedas* and the *Upa-vedas*. The knowers of these understand that in the World-process disease exists as well as its remedy, and changes of form, birth and death, dissolution and creation, sleeping and waking, day and night, are always taking place, and that they should not bring pleasure and pain, joy and sorrow, in undue excess and seriousness, to them. Action, motion, movement, doing of work—this one fact stretches all around and everywhere, in all ways, in all time, and in all space. They who undertake the burden of the household life with this knowledge, they undergo no undue elations and depressions but ever are at peace, full of knowledge, full of confidence, full of bliss.

On this principle (of securing a perfect parity between bride and bridegroom) is based the examination of *jāṭi*, genus, type, caste, and other matters. 'My individuality, my constitutional peculiarity, is such; my *prakṛti*, general nature and powers are such; my heredity, the characteristic of my family, our way of thinking, our family-business are such and such'—having

examined all these matters carefully the proper thing to do is to marry a maiden whose circumstances are in accord with those of the youth. If such matters are not thought of, then troubles arise, and disparity of nature, and mutual repulsion, and unhappiness generally.

The systematic examination of these matters is known as *gaṇana*, calculation, in *Jyauṭiṣha-shāstra* or the science of astrology. The nature of the mental, super-physical and physical constitution of both is determined by an examination of their names, times of birth, *lagna*, *rāshi*, etc., and then it can be seen whether they agree or not. This is the work of the astrologer. In the matter of the examination of the family, the elders should be consulted. They can say: Such are the heredity and traditions of this family, such their occupation, such their ancestry, etc. Then both youth and maiden should be examined by a physician to determine the compatibility or otherwise of their conditions of physical health and temperaments. And so on.

Yet again, the unity of their *vyāpāra*, 'operation', business-habits, interests, tastes, should be ascertained by means of the science of *Kalāpa*¹; for when the *vyāpāra* is divergent

¹ It is not clear what particular science is meant by this name, possibly economics. Other sciences are also referred to, *e.g.*, *Kāma-shāstra* or the science

then too is mutual affection impossible. Only after such a careful examination, in all respects, can the sacrament of marriage be performed with honour and success. Hence the counsel that marriage ought to take place only when all the sciences give their consent to it, and when both bride and bridegroom have perfected knowledge.

(k) The eleventh sacrament is the *vaḍhū-pravesha*, the entrance, the home-bringing, of the bride. After the marriage comes the familiarisation of the bride with the members of her new family generally, and with the husband especially. The principal feature thereof is the promotion of mutual intimacy between the pair. Its essence is the determination, the ascertainment by each other, of the knowledge possessed by each in respect of cognition, action, desire and their summation. It is fitting that the bride should disclose to her new family her accomplishments and qualifications. She gives joy to her husband's parents and relations thereby. All this is the 'manifestation of qualities,' *guṇa-prakāśhaṇa*, and the World-process is but a manifestation of the qualities residing in the All-substance, *Mūla-prakṛti*.

of love, for determination of the minuter but often important details of their sex-nature, and *Nīti-shāstra*, jurisprudence, for the ascertainment of their *avasthā*, legal status, and so on.

The true consecration here is the full knowledge of I-This-Not and the entrance upon the right path in consequence.

(l) The twelfth sacrament is the *ḍvir-āgamaṇa*, the second bringing, of the wife to her husband's house. The bride should go back again to her father's house after the *vaḍhū-praveśa*. She goes there and again studies the sciences of *kriyā* and *kāma* with her mother. Finishing the study and attaining full capacity for performing her duties she comes back the second time to her husband's house, mates with him in the proper time to the enhancement of their mutual love and joy, and helps and serves with propriety the members of the household, the relations, the kinsmen, the cousins and the brothers of her husband.

The true *ḍvir-āgamaṇa* is the knowledge of the laws of *re-birth*, of the ways in which the human being dies and is born again, the principles on which the endless succession of day and night, evolution and re-absorption, existence and non-existence, take place. Everywhere is this World-process a 'second coming', a repetition. The activity of *samsāra* is dual, going and coming. 'Going' is inwards, towards the Self; 'coming' is outwards, towards the Not-Self; apart from these two there is naught. In the junction of the two, there appear words and language. Otherwise, indeed, there is no speaker, no

spoken, and no speech. The significance of the true consecration is this: 'This is I' and 'I is This'; the I is the going, the This is the coming. The external imitation thereof is the ceremony known under the name of *ḍvir-āgamaṇa*.

The *shukra*¹, is taken into consideration at this time; it is the reproductive cell, also the planet Venus which governs its development. The 'consideration' of the *shukra* is for the purpose of making sure of sexual maturity. After knowledge has been matured, the cell also

¹ It is customary in modern Hindū life to make sure that the position of the planet Venus is favorable according to the rules of astrology, before performing the rite of the 'second coming.' *Shukra*, which means the planet Venus, the reproductive cell, the Hierarch-Priest and Preceptor of the *Daityas* or Titans (corresponding to the Third Race of theosophical literature), white color, *Viṣṇu*, and also Brahman (the seed and container of the whole World-process) is one of those many Samskr̥t words which, meaning many different and apparently utterly disconnected things, hint by that very fact at an underlying connexion between those various seeming things. *The Secret Doctrine* tells us that many hierarchs and other *jīvas* came over from the planet Venus during the evolution of the Third Root-Race here on the earth, and that the division into two sexes of humanity was made in the middle of that Race.

matures with age.¹ When both are mature, then only should the work of marriage begin. The true *śhukra* is the union of the I with the

¹ According to Samskr̥t Vaidyaka physiology, the *śhukra-kalā*, the generative energy, vital sap, peculiar dermal tissue or membranous or other constituent of the organism, proceeding from its nerve-centre in the head reaches the breasts about the sixteenth year in man, and at that time puberty, the capacity to procreate, commences. But the process of the downward ramification is completed and the system fully matured only when the toes have been reached, and that takes place at about the 36th year, or middle age, the universally recognised prime of life, which is also the ideal time for closing *brahma-charya* according to the *Smṛtis*. In terms of consciousness, seminal energy begins with knowledge of these matters, in the head, and gradually descends to the heart, that is, inspires desire, and finally, permeating the other parts of the body, the actional organs, fructifies in the act of creation. As this *śhukra-kalā* advances and spreads more and more strongly and thickly, the skin takes on the bloom, the *lāvaṇya*, the 'saltiness,' *namakinī* in the Persian language, the crystal gleam, the pearly shine, which is the essence of the good complexion and which is more than half the beauty of youth. Even in saying this, another of those remarkable instances of the philosophy and science hidden in philology and in popular words comes up. Salt, at least according to old Indian Vaidyaka, as food and

This. This alone is jñāna, knowledge, whence memory, whence virility. The vīrya, the generative energy, of this saṁsāra is smaraṇa¹

in external application, is medically connected with skin-diseases, many of which have a venereal origin, as is generally recognised; and the latest researches of physiologists, (especially Loeb in America) tend to establish a connexion between the fertilisation of germs and saline solutions. Compare the biblical expression, 'Ye are the salt of the earth'. In Indian medicine, salt is forbidden during the treatment of some skin-diseases. It may be added that, according to *Vaidyaka*, food undergoes gradual transformation, one after the other, into seven dhātus, tissues, constituents of the living body, in the course of one lunar month, that the seventh and finest is shukra, and that, if this is conserved by brahma-carya, (see *Yoga-Sūtra*, ii. 38), the next or eighth transformation carries it on to a subtler or higher plane as ojas, sahas, balam, etc., 'magnetism,' 'glow,' 'bloom,' 'energy,' 'vigour,' 'radiance,' 'glory,' 'halo,' 'aura,' as it variously and vaguely appears and is called. (See *Viṣṇu Bhāgavata*, Shrīdhara's *Tīkā*, II. vi. 44; *Charaka*, Sūtrasthāna, XXX; and *Vāgbhata*, V. XL. 4).

¹ Smaraṇa means memory, recollection, in Samskr̥t, Smara means Cupid, Kāma-deva, the god of love or desire, whose principal nourishment is derived from the memory of, the dwelling in imagination on, the perfections of the beloved; and vīrya means the seed, the seminal germ, and also

only : My father did thus ; I did thus ; this is or was the result ; if this is done again, the consequence will again be the same ; this man acts thus and we too do or should do the same ; I do or shall do it also, etc.—this kind of activity of the process of recollection in its threefold form of *vismṛti*, *smṛti* and *anusmṛti*, (forgetting, recollection, and gradual recollection back or ‘reminding’ in connexion with expectation) is the means of accomplishing the business of life. This sacrament is also a necessary one, therefore, with reference to sexual maturity.

(*m*) The thirteenth sacrament is the *prasaṁ*. It is performed generally at the time of the first conception (only and not the subsequent ones.) The first conception, (because of the previous virgin purity of the parents?) is the time for great souls¹ to enter into the human uterus, and there-

virility, vigour, energy. We may here note the fact that presence of mind is essentially memory, conscious or sub-conscious, of similar situations successfully dealt with in the past, or worked out beforehand in imagination (See *Yoga-Sūtra*, i. 20) ; also the view of modern evolutionists that the parent-cell is in a sense immortal and is the seat and store of all racial and individual experience, i.e., memory.

¹ This no doubt was the rule in the earlier days of humanity when the hierarchic, patriarchal or aristocratic form of government was secured by laws of primogeniture ; for the superphysical and physical

fore the firm establishment of the foetus in the uterus and the prevention of such mishaps as worlds work in with each other. Compare Manu's declaration on the subject, to the effect that the first is the child of dharma and the subsequent the results of kâma, mere sex-desire. With the growth of the human race and of the spirit of democracy, these customs fall more and more into desuetude. In accordance with the law of analogy, as above so below, these laws and customs have to be interpreted on various scales, in the individual, the family, and the race. In the family, *e. g.*, from the standpoint of the children, the 'government' is by elders, patriarchs; when they are grown up, it is democratic, republican, all are equal; finally they separate and found new families, and again repeat the government by elders on a higher level. In the race, the elders and patriarchs become the hierarchs and divine beings with rights of primogeniture; the second stage is the growth of the republican spirit, of democracy; the third, of emigration and founding of new empires, kingdoms, colonies. So, again, in the individual, even to-day, the *first* of any kind or set of experiences is matter for especial demonstration of feeling, care, anxiety and rejoicing. In the earlier days of the bifurcation of sexes, in the latter half of the life of the Third Root-Race, sex-development and fructification must have been times for special remark and demonstration; later on the thing became common, indeed commonplace. Pathologically also, there is greater danger of miscarriage at the first conception.

abortion, should be secured with the help of the power of sound residing in mantras. In truth the sacrament belongs to every conception, but it has a special usefulness in the case of the first.¹

In the true consecration, the idea is the complete mergence of the I in the This: The I is nothing, even the word I is not; all is included in the This.

There is need, here also, to consider the auspicious muhūrta, time, and to observe certain rules of injunction and prohibition. The science of Jyotiṣha determines that the union of man and woman, after the monthly period, on a particular day and at a particular time, lagna, nakṣhaṭṭra, conjunction of planets, etc., has a special result in the nature and sex of the child.

During the first pregnancy, the union of husband and wife, after the conception, is forbidden. In subsequent pregnancies, Kāmaśāstra allows it. The condition of women is uneasy during the first pregnancy; their vital energy is diminished in an exceptional degree

¹ The difference between this rite and that of garbhāḍhāna is not very clear; probably this is concerned more with the parents, and that more with the embryo; that is the first sacrament in life and this the thirteenth in that same life now grown from embryo to parent.

because of the unaccustomed drain on it for the support of the foetus. Union under these circumstances is pleasureless to both, and only when the due *rāsa*, taste, relish, enjoyment, can be properly achieved is such union happy. Utter abstinence and the consequent entire absence of *rāsa* breeds its own troubles on the other hand. To obviate all these the performance of this sacrament is necessary.

(n) The fourteenth sacrament is the *janana-vraṭa*, the 'birth-vow,' which takes place immediately after the birth of the child. There is rejoicing on the occasion because of the fulfilment of the wish for 'increase,' expansion, multiplication, which is the supreme wish of all. Even Mahā-Viṣṇu rejoices at the birth of the first son. Whatever promotes the work of the *Pranava*, in any aspect, of *Aham*, or *Etaṭ* or *Na*, promotes rejoicing. The *pitṛs* also rejoice, for they are the regulators of the continuing succession, *i.e.*, the 'restoration' and expansion, of the family. Indeed, the *param-parā*, the succession 'one after another,' is the family. And of all such successions there are regulators and maintainers, and they are called the family *devas*, *kula-devatā*, the lares and penates. There is also an *āchārya*, guide, preceptor. assigned to each *param-parā*, to see to its maintenance and expansion. The maintenance, *udḍharaṇa*, 'up-holding,' consists in the

constant care-taking: This custom has always been observed in this family; it is observed now; it should be observed in the future also, etc. The expansion should be understood in the light of Mahā-Viṣṇu's rule of multiplication. Such āchāryas are ṛṣhis, mahātmās, brāhmaṇas, etc. They all are the family pitṛs, and the reason for their rejoicing is obvious. The foundation of all things in this saṁsāra is the work of Brahman (i.e., the continuance of the World-process, activity, or multiplication.¹) So when a new child is born and the World-process receives another turn of the wheel, they think: This person has got a son; the son will discharge the duties of the world; he will make a new multitude; he will attain knowledge and do dharma; to him there will come the consciousness Aham-Etaṁ-Na. The giving of this satisfaction to the pitṛs is pitṛ-tarpana; but complete satisfaction comes to them only when Brahman (in the aspect of the unification of all beings) is realised.

¹ Compare the current verse बृहत्स्वाद्बृहणस्वाद्ब्रह्मैव
ब्रह्मोति गीयते, "because of its immensity, brhattva,
and because of its endless expansion, brmhana,
the Ātmā, the Self itself, is called Brahman,"
(which word is derived from the root brh, to
grow.)

Hence the advice to perform the *nāṇḍī-mukha-shrāḍḍha*, 'the happy-faced rite,' on the occasion. It consists in bringing satisfaction to all beings as far as lies in one's power, in giving out of one's superfluous possessions, in the overflow of joy, to others wanting them. The making complete of the incomplete, with *shrāḍḍhā*, faith, is *shrāḍḍha*. Whatever is done with faith is *shrāḍḍha*; and only that is done which has not been already done; and that which has not been done is the incomplete, and hence the completion of it is fitting and proper, though, in verity, all is ever done and ever complete. *Nāṇḍa* is expansion, (also, joy); the condition or state of *nāṇḍa* is *nāṇḍī*. The *shrāḍḍha* that is done for the *mukha*, the face, the front, the sake, thereof, is *nāṇḍī-mukha-shrāḍḍha*¹.

The external formality is the offering of the sacrificial ball, *havya-piṇḍa*. By such offering all beings are benefited; receiving that *mantra*-enveloped ball they rejoice exceedingly.

¹ The modern interpretation of the word *shrāḍḍha* is the same; but *nāṇḍī-mukha* is construed somewhat differently as the 'piṭṛs whose faces are glad,' thereby meaning either the ordinary piṭṛs on a special occasion of rejoicing or certain special classes of piṭṛs, the 'glad-faced'; an offering to such is the *nāṇḍī-mukha-shrāḍḍha*.

In the true form, the idea is 'the appearance of the I in the This,' the consciousness 'I am' in the 'This'. It is true that the I and the This are not separable, still the consciousness here is of the nature of a regarding of them as substratum and attribute, supporter and supported, because they appear in one organism; *saṭṭā*, being, is the whole *aḍhi-karaṇa*, it is the only *aḍhi-karaṇa*, also it is only an *aḍhi-karaṇa*, substratum, forum, class or category, or common instrument of working or cooperation and unification—as the *Nyāya* declares.

This sacrament applies principally to the birth of a male child; but strictly it applies to both male and female children.

After this sacrament, comes the fifteenth, when the householder has finished all the duties of the household-life in the course of years, and appointed his son to carry on that work.

(o) The fifteenth sacrament is *nivartana*, retirement. It applies to the *ḍampaṭī*, the pair, both husband and wife. The etymological significance of the latter word is that the pair, after *ḍamaṇa*, conquest, of personal desires, surrender themselves to and are established in the *paṭi*, the lord and master, the supreme Self¹.

¹ This etymology is not recognised by modern Samskr̥t grammar. Apparently all the sacraments,

This sacrament signifies that the pair having understood the All and the All-pervading, relinquish one kind of work, *viz.*, that of the household, and take up another, for entire renunciation of all activity is impossible. They now constantly ponder only the Na, and so pondering roam freely over the surface of the earth wishing well to all the World-process. In the true form the idea is: 'Not I, Not This'.

The formal ceremony represents this idea. The proper times for all these various sacraments are also indicated by the Logion itself, as childhood, youth and age, respectively, corresponding to the Self, the Not-Self, and the Negation. Sub-divisions give us seven ages, *viz.*, those of the infant, the child, the boy, the youth, the middle-aged, the old, and the dying. They are connected with cognition, desire, etc. (The first three sacraments belong to the pre-natal

from marriage onwards, apply to the married pair jointly. That this fact is mentioned particularly in connexion with the fifteenth sacrament and not with the others, seems to be due to the presence of the possibility that a careless person might misunderstand 'retirement' from the household as justifying the abandonment of the wife by the husband even against her wishes. Manu expressly ordains that unless the wife herself wishes to stay behind in the 'household' with her children, she too shall be taken to the 'forest'.

condition; the next five to that of infancy, boyhood and brahmacharya; the next six to that of youth, middle-age and gārhaṣṭhya; the fifteenth seems to cover old age and vānaprastha, and partly sannyāsa also. While the sixteenth, as will appear presently, covers decrepitude and death and sannyāsa.)

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER VI (*continued*). Sub-Section (vii)

THE SACRAMENTS OF THE YAJUR-VEĀ.

The sixteenth sacrament, post-mortem rites.

(*p*) The sixteenth sacrament is *maraṇa*, death. Having finished all its work and exhausted all its energy, the *jīva* abandons the body.

Two kinds of *kriyā*, action, activity, are generally recognised, *ākraṣṭatā* and *mandatā*, tension and relaxation. The former accomplishes work; the latter is powerlessness or gradual decay and disappearance of action. During the performance of work the *jīva*'s energy is tense. He has acquired it in some way, and that way is this. The man engaged in active work becomes gradually slower and then entirely fatigued and exhausted as the work is completed. During that time of laxness and fatigue and, finally, rest, the work performed 'matures'. The maturing produces new energy. Then work begins anew, and so on, endlessly. Thus after eating (food, earned by work), sleeping follows, as is recommended. During the sleep the food produces fresh energy, and the man rises with powers renewed and performs

work afresh with success while those powers last. The process of birth and death, creation and dissolution, is the same. Activity begins with birth; when the work of life is finished, 'slowness,' *mandatā*, relaxation, supervenes to allow of the maturation of the work. That slowing down is *maraṇa*, the act of dying or death. When no more power for work is left in this *sṭhūla* body, then it is abandoned by the *jīva*. 'The powerless and therefore useless should be abandoned'—is the common saying. Thereafter, the 'maturation' of the actions done in the *sṭhūla* or gross physical body, i.e., the experiencing and assimilation of their consequences, takes place in the *sūkṣhma* or subtle body. 'Slowness' supervenes in the *sūkṣhma* body also in the course of time, and then the activity is transferred to the *kāraṇaśarīra*, the causal body; 'this' body is never abandoned (within the limits of one great cycle). New power is derived therefrom and new *sūkṣhma* and *sṭhūla* bodies are put on successively and thus birth on the physical plane takes place afresh. These three bodies, physical, subtle and causal, correspond to the Self, the Not-Self and the Negation.

When the *sṭhūla* becomes 'slow,' the *jīva* passes into the *sūkṣhma*, and this passing itself is dying. Hence the statement that, after death, the *jīva* goes to the abode of Yama.

Yama is *nivṛtṭi*, in-verting, re-verting, renunciation. The abode thereof is the *sūkṣhma-ḍeha*. Renunciation comes only after pursuit, *pravartana*; the *jīva*, retreating, retiring from the pursuit of sense-objects by means of and in the physical body, turns elsewhere. This elsewhere is the *sūkṣhma* body and it is the *yam-ālaya*, the abode of Yama. Confined there, the *jīva* dwells in *Kāma-loka*, the 'world of desire,' and experiences subtle actions (*i.e.*, either performs actions with the subtle body or experiences the fruits of sinful thoughts, *i.e.*, actions committed in thought during the physical life). Such experience is painful, whence the name and significance of *naraka*, (etymologically, 'the little, contemptible, evil or worthless man,') the nether world, purgatory. The world of *kāmanā* or desire is *kāma-loka*. The evil desires indulged in here in the gross body are 'considered,' digested, reflected or dwelt on, there. Hence many regrets and sorrows. Abandoning that subtle body again the *jīva* passes on to *Svarga* in the *kāraṇa* body.¹

¹ The reader may discern some discrepancy between the text here and the statements on the subject in other theosophical literature. Different seers and different systems of metaphysic and practical Yoga have propounded schemes of bodies and planes which vary more or less from each other. At the present stage of public knowledge it is not easy to

Svarga is happy. The k ā r a ṇ a is the ātma-

reconcile them all with each other or to say determinately that any one of them is positively incorrect. But there is a general agreement that there are such gradations of bodies and planes, and an agreement of the majority, in India, that a scheme of three bodies, s t h ū l a, s ū k ṣ h m a and k ā r a ṇ a, dense, subtle and causal, and of planes or worlds corresponding to them, is the most intelligible and useful for the practical purposes of yoga. This scheme of three bodies may be regarded as the primary, and in accordance with the primal Trinity as said here. The next in degree of practical importance would be the scheme of seven, arrived at by permutations and combinations of the primal three. The *Praṇava-vāda* mentions septenates of various kinds repeatedly, amongst them seven sheaths or bodies, but not always by the same names. Current Vedānta has one scheme of five k o s h a s side by side with the scheme of three bodies. Theosophical literature, which has naturally undergone modification and also passed through a process of clarification and growth of ideas on this among other subjects, while accepting the three bodies as the fundamental fact, gives seven sub-divisions—a gross body, an ethereal double, an astral body, a lower mental body, a higher mental or causal body, a buddhic body, an ātmic or nirvāṇic body—and refers to still subtler or higher planes. All this at first sight is apt to be confusing, especially as to the why of all this multiplicity of bodies within bodies. An attempt to

deha:¹

The import of all these observations is simply that there is no entire cessation from activity to the jīva at any time, but only a cessation of one condition in the midst of an endlessness of conditions, a single determination in an endless general indeterminateness. Such a cessation is the sacrament of death. The (sub-conscious) rejoicing thereat is due to the expectation of the birth of fresh power. But because of the predominant manifestation of the Negation, grief is more manifest. The combination of This with Not, meaning the destruction of the This (more prominently than the creation of the Not with its hidden affirmation of new forms) gives rise to grief.

ascertain this why has been made in *The Science of Peace*, (pp. 125, 210, 211, 318) and will further be made in future notes in this work. (See foot-note near the close of the last Section, VI). In the meanwhile the triple division stands undisputed as primary.

¹ This seems to mean that the cause of the fact that Svarga is happy is that the kārāṇa body is the ātma-body, the body in which the Self, which is bliss, is predominant, or, in other words, that for the purposes of this cycle, the causal body is, for all practical purposes, the innermost core and the immortal Self itself.

This maraṇa or death is san-nyāsa, as nivarṭana or renunciation is vāna-prasṭha, as pravartana or pursuit is gārhaṣṭhya, and as sampāḍana or accumulation and preparation is brahma-charya, corresponding to cognition, desire, action and summation. What is known as sannyāsa with reference to the scheme of life, is maraṇa with reference to the scheme of sacraments.

The ordinance is that the dead body should be burned. Because of the constant connexion between the sūkṣhma and the sṭhūla, the jīva dwelling in the sūkṣhma-body wishes to come back to this world from Kāma-loka, and if the gross body continues to exist though dead, it may come back in an abnormal and unhealthy way. This is the way that mischievous preṭas, vampires, incubi, succubi, etc., arise. In Kāma-loka, the jīva continues to revolve in memory the objects it longed for formerly on earth, and endeavours to return to the gross body in order to enjoy them¹. Many serious

¹ A difficulty may occur here. As in the physical world, desires manifesting in the physical body reach out to and are gratified by physical objects so those in the astral body should correspond with astral objects; how is it then that the desires of the astral entity remain attached to physical objects and, impossible to gratify, become a means of pain and expiation? The explanation seems to be this:

troubles would arise from such a state of things, if it came about. To prevent it the lifeless gross body is cast into the fire.

Even after the destruction of the gross body, there remains another, the *līṅga-dēha*, type-body, which is similiar to the former in shape. This is included in the *sṭhūla* during life. And earthly objects can be enjoyed with this (alone, also); things greatly craved can be reached by it. Thus, we see in the case of dreams, that distant objects are reached with the *līṅga-dēha*, if greatly longed for. Or again, persons in different places in the physical body come together (in the *līṅga*-body). All *objects* exist in space; desire to obtain them links subjects to space, and space is entered into or traversed (quickly?) by means of the *līṅga-dēha*.¹

In the ordinary human being, the *jñānendriyas* and *karmendriyas* have their *centres* in the astral body and their *organs* in the physical; and, similarly, the fully developed astral being has his sensor and motor *centres* in the mental body and the organs, for the enjoyment of astral objects, in the astral body. In the midway condition of the *preṭa*, the centres are present in its astral frame, and he feels corresponding desires also; but there are no developed organs yet; hence disappointment and pain. (A.B.)

¹ See footnote in this chapter, p. 272 *infra*, attempting to reconcile discrepancies as to *dēhas* and *lokas*.

Hence we find that in *h a t h a - y o g a*, by means of the violent processes called *k u f i j a r a*, etc., the *jīva*, while retaining connexion with the gross body, can put it off and go forth (in the subtler); and so, many troubles arise from the (posthumous persistence of the) *l i n g a - d e h a* also. This body too is abandoned according to *karma*.¹ *Jīvas* while occupying the *l i n g a*-body wander about here on earth. After that they dwell in *Kāma-loka*. Therefore should the gross body, when deprived of its own legitimate inspiring force, be cast into the fire. This is the *ḍ ā h a*, cremation, and it is intended only to ward off the possible troubles mentioned above.

The *jīva* (that is passionate and full of unsatisfied appetites) is angered by the cremation of the body, and dwells in the burning-ground in his *l i n g a*-body thereafter. The cremator comes away from the burning-ground. There is danger to him from the *jīva*. The desire (of the *jīva* for return to his ordinary physical life) is the source of the danger, though (the *jīva*) stays in the burning-ground. If the cremator stayed in the burning-place (and the dead *jīva* were especially violent) he too might be killed. On these facts is based the device mentioned in the *Tantra-shāstra* (dealing with

¹ Either the *jīva*'s *karma* in the sense of merit and demerit, or *vaiḍika karma* in the sense of ritual prescribed for funeral ceremonies.

such practices) that japa should be made in the burning-ground to 'bind' a preta and secure its services (for purposes usually of black magic). The preta is gratified by the japa, and desirable objects, such as it coveted in physical life, are offered to it. In such practices, it should be remembered that if the performer allows himself to be frightened, then his fate is miserable indeed. He suffers death or complete madness or some minor harassment. Because of such dangers the cremator carries iron¹ on his person, for a certain number of days. After the cremation comes the asthi-sañchaya, the collection of the bones; it consists in the casting into water of the ashes and the remnants of the bones. If these are not cast into the water, the angered preta can cause much mischief even with the ashes, and diseases may arise therefrom also. Hence it is very necessary to throw them into running water. The preta, seeing the ashes thrown away, goes (*i. e.*, endeavours to go) with the cremator; to prevent this, it is 'fixed' to some place outside the town or the house with the power of mantras. Even the most

¹ A piece of sharp iron, like a knife, or pointed, like a dagger, is usually thus carried, now-a-days. The reasons may consist in the merely psychological *idea* of confidence associated with the possession of a weapon of offence and defence; or in some super-physical properties belonging to the metal.

powerful preṭa is subject to such power. While the preṭa remains unsatisfied, endeavours have to be made continuously to bring it contentment, *e.g.*, by ghata-sṭhāpana, the setting apart of a jar, whereby water and food are offered to it, and by dīpa-dāna, the offering of light, etc. If such things are done and the preṭa gets the piṇdas, etc., he gradually forgets his connexion with the gross body, and is 'satisfied.'¹

Hence the shrāddha, offering of the dashagātra-piṇdas, wherein each offering of one piṇda, ball of rice-paste, severs the preṭa's connexion with one of the dasha-gātras, the ten limbs (or parts of the body)². Six piṇdas are offered before the cremation, also; their purpose is to accomplish

¹ The text here seems to apply mostly to very unevolved persons, laborers, etc., of a low type, or very selfish people of a more evolved sort. (A. B.)

² The mantras used nowadays at this rite aim at *forming* the ten 'limbs'; the reconciliation is probably that they destroy the connexion of the jīva with the grosser physical and etheric and help to form the corresponding limbs of the sūkshma or subtle body, at first the lower astral, or the preṭa body of theosophical literature.

(It is an interesting coincidence that the Egyptian ritual for the dead, makes the dead man gather up his limbs on the other side of death.—A. B.)

the detachment of the *jīva* from the coveted objects of the household. These are offered in the order of cognition, action and desire, and thereupon the *jīva* casts off his craving for household objects, being drawn away from them by his wish for these *pindas*¹ and by the attraction of the dead body, too, from the house to the burning-ground. This makes up the offering of the sixteen *pindas*.

Besides this, another single *pinda* is offered, before the cremation, in the burning-ground, as representing the *saṁāhāra*, the totality of cognition, desire and action; this *shrāddha* is performed by means of the *saṁāhara-mantra*. After this and the *ḍaśa-gāṭra*, the eleventh *pinda* should be offered on the eleventh day, for love of which the *preṭa* remembers not the gross body any more; this *ekādaśāha* offering, on the eleventh day after death, is made with the *smaraṇa-vīnāśana* mantra that 'destroys the memory'. On the eleventh day, the *vṛṣh-oṭsarga*, the 'setting free of the bull,' is also performed. This too tends to the

¹ The essence, aroma, or subtle aura of these *pindas*, even though, in themselves, they may not be very attractive objects, would reach the *jīva* by the power of the mantras and so bring him positive gratification, while his craving for the other objects would be less capable of gratification; hence the drawing away from the one to the other.

satisfaction of the preṭa. The bull is given away, to some one as a gift, or is simply set free, in order to secure the release of the preṭa from his unhappy state. The Lord of the preṭa-world, dwelling in Kāma-loka, is also pleased with gifts of bulls.¹ 'Obtaining' the fruit of, *i.e.*, by virtue of such a gift, the preṭa casts off his liṅga-ḍeḥa quickly. Such is 'the deliverance from the condition of the preṭa.'

¹ The exact significance of this rite is not clear. One may note, in a general way, that each human race has its pet animal or animals. Thus, the horse and the dog are pets with the present fifth sub-race of the fifth Race, *viz.*, the European races; and the cat and the crocodile were the favourites of the Egyptians; so the bull and cow seem to have been connected with the Indian people, the first sub-race of the fifth Race, in a characteristic way (though the representatives of all other main types of animals are also included in the Hindū pantheon, as the 'vehicles' of the several chief gods and goddesses, with that 'comprehensiveness' which is the chief characteristic of the Hindū dharma.) The cause of such connexions would be found in the subdivision of all things whatsoever, according to the all-pervading principle of the 'rays,' castes, or guṇas. The setting free of a bull, as *nullius res*, to improve and multiply the race of this indispensable animal in India, would in itself be an act of merit as a direct service to the public, and so help the jīva, the merit being voluntarily transferred to his

Shayyā-dāna, the giving of bedsteads, etc., (on the eleventh day) is intended to win comfort for the *jīva* in *Kāma-loka*. Things given away here in the gross form are gained in *Kāma-loka* in the subtle form. *Mantras* convert them into that subtle form. All the beings of this world dwell for a time in *Kāma-loka*, and, while there, remember their loved ones, their friends, etc., of the earth; and where there is memory there is actual relationship, and therefore the performance of these acts of charity, etc., is right and helpful¹.

credit by his earthly progeny, who perform the act, by means of *mantras*. There may be besides, subtle magnetic effects such as those hinted at in the text. Thus, one theosophical explanation of rebirth in a lower kingdom is that an exceptionally depraved *jīva* which, even after having evolved to the human stage, retains bestial habits, is now and then tied to an animal body which has its own animal-*jīva*-tenant also all the while. It is quite possible that the bull-calf 'set free' in connexion with funeral ceremonies might serve some such purposes in cases now and then; though, now, it is more a matter of routine than of discrimination.

¹ These observations may help us to realise what amount of basis of fact there is in the practices of savages who slaughter relations, friends, servants, animals, at the death of their chiefs in order that they may keep the latter company; as well as in the gentler practices of more peaceful and organised

Thereafter comes the *dvādaśh-āha-viḍhi*, 'the ritual of the twelfth day,' in accordance with the rule of the sixteen *samskāras*. Sixteen *piṇḍas* are offered thereat; hence the name *shoḍaśhī-shrāḍḍha*. This *shrāḍḍha* has reference to the *brahmacharya* and other *āshramas*, stages of life, and the work (thereof, including the sixteen *samskāras*?) and is intended to bring about the abandonment of desire for or attachment to them, by the *preṭa*. It is true that they are renounced as soon as the body is renounced; but the constant practice, the habit, of them, through a long period of time, impresses them on the *liṅga-ḍeḥa* strongly and causes a fruitless and painful yearning.

For similar reasons we have the other *shrāḍḍhas*, of the first, the second, the third month etc., (up to the twelfth?). The word 'monthly' here indicates a *vaśṭhā*, condition; there are sixteen such conditions or stages after death. Hence we have the offering of the sixteen

peoples like the Egyptians, Indians, etc., who offered and still offer bloodless help to their departed. The former would seem to be only the ferocious and fearful exaggeration and degeneration of the latter, appearing during the decay, the 'involution,' the diseased senility of dying races.

Actual relationship by *memory* is very significant and explains theosophical views on the subject.

pindas, shodasha-pinda. After this, the preṭa abandons the town, and its līṅga-dēha breaks up rapidly. This līṅga-dēha is the embodiment of lok-eṣhaṇā, desire for the world; its form is like that of the gross body; and, after the death of the latter, it passes through the sixteen conditions mentioned before, for the gradual abandonment of which a pinda is ordained each month. This monthly offering should be made in accordance with the condition of the līṅga-body, at the times prescribed as most favourable to the dissolution of that condition, and at the time of the final casting off of the līṅga-body the yearly pinda should be offered. The ordinary length of life of the līṅga-dēha is one year after the destruction of the gross body; hence the extension of post-mortem ceremonies over one year. Thereafter the jīva goes in the sūkṣhma-dēha into Kāma-loka. But, by special means, the līṅga-dēha may be dissolved even at the same time as the sṭhūla; and, again, sometimes it lives for many years, in exceptional cases. The līṅga-dēha is called the preṭa and the Līṅga-loka is the Preṭa-loka.

¹ There may well appear to the reader a serious discrepancy between the text here and current theosophical views. The latter aver that the ethereal double can be separated from the gross-body

Altogether, fifty pindas are offered in the course of the funeral rites. The pinda (the first one?) of the burning-ground is not counted, as it is intended for one's (i.e., the cremator's) own release (from pursuit by the preṭa) and not for the helping of the preṭa. The fifty

during life only in the most exceptional cases, and that too for a very short time, and that it does not survive the disintegration of the gross body more than twenty-four hours at most. The text here says, on the contrary, that its normal term of separate existence is a whole year. The reconciliation will be found perhaps, in the view that the *liṅga-deha* here does not mean only the ethereal double but also the lower astral body of theosophical literature. The distinction between the lower astral body and the higher astral body is not yet made there either with much clearness, but it is being recognised more and more. (See foot-note, p. 260, *supra*).

I have said above 'does not mean . . . only but also,' because it cannot be said that it means wholly and only the latter. It seems to me that this is the case with the names of all 'bodies, graded one with or within another. They pass from one to another, as ice to water and that to steam, in a manner which makes it difficult to say precisely where the one ends and the other begins. Hence the somewhat unsettled condition of the terminology. Indeed, in strictness, this is the case with all objects whatever; nothing can be rigorously defined and marked off from other

are made up thus: Six before the cremation, ten of the *ḍaśha-gāṭra*, one of the *ekā-ḍaśha-āha*, sixteen of the *śhoḍaśhī-śhrāḍḍha*, sixteen of the sixteen (monthly) *śhrāḍḍhas*, and finally one of the *vārṣhika* or annual *śhrāḍḍha*¹.

things, finally, though the predominant characteristic helps us to do so for practical purposes with regard to most things. As our knowledge of these bodies grows, our definition of them will grow more complete. In the meanwhile, we may provisionally assume that here *liṅga-deha* corresponds with the lower astral body, which lives out its generally unhappy life in that region of *Bhuvar-loka* which is known as the *Preṭa-loka*, while the higher astral body, which may be said to correspond to part of the *sūkṣhma*-body of the text, dwells in the other region of that same *Bhuvar-loka* which is known as the *Piṭṛ-loka* or *Kāma-loka*. So it is said, earlier in this chapter, that the *jīva* dwells in *Svarga-loka* in the *kāraṇa* body. This also appears to differ from the theosophical view and should be reconciled with it in the same way, by distinguishing a lower mental body from a higher mental body, the former, according to theosophical literature, being prominent in *Svarga* and the latter latent.

¹ In modern Hindū life, there is some conflict of practice as regards these offerings, mainly as regards the times at which they should be offered. These times cannot always be observed in exact accordance with the old rules. The sixteen monthly

In the true form of this consecration, the idea is: The I and the This are both Not; the Not predominates and is the source of all; all is naught, all is Not. To realise all as Not—this is the death-sacrament. The bond between the I and the This is broken, and the mutual 'deliverance' is the occasion of rejoicing. The two become one (and so abolish each other, Self—Not-Self—Not). All this appearance of separateness and contradiction disappears. The (separate) knowledge of the I, the This, and the Not is 'burned' up in the complete knowledge, 'I-This-Not,' so that neither the I is, nor the This, nor the Not (by itself). Hence the *jīva* who knows this is also a *preṭa*, i.e., *prakarṣheṇa*, supremely, *iṭa*, arrived, attained, accomplished. *Prakarṣha* here refers to *prayaṭna*, effort, for this supreme knowledge is gained by supreme effort only.

offerings, compressed into twelve months by the text itself, are often in actual fact, finished within half that time or even less, in many cases. There is also a *shoḍaśhi* performed on the 13th or the 16th day after death, in many families, and so on. The principles having been lost sight of, and the orderly scheme of life laid down by *Manu* being very much disturbed and changed, the practices based upon them have also naturally become uncertain.

The fifty *pindās* in this connexion mean the various combinations of I-This-Not (?).¹ The six *pindās* before cremation are the six permutations of cognition, desire and action (taken two at a time ?) each accompanied by the Not. The *sama-āhāra-pinda* or that offered at the burning-ground is the seventh, and corresponds to the combined activity of the six. Or taken in another way, we have the actor, the cause, the effect or work, the motive, the relation of these four, the following or working out or manifestation of that relation, and finally its destruction. The I is the actor; the particular 'this' in the I is the cause; the 'this' become (*i.e.*, become identified with) the I is the effect; ('May I become this and not this other' is the motive); the conjunction of I and this is the relation; 'I am this, this,' is the following out or manifestation or evolution; (I am) not (this, this, etc.) is the seventh (*i.e.*, destruction). (After all this there follows) again the I-This-Not-*am*, the connecting of the first three with the verb *as*, to be, (in consequence of which there is a reassertion of what has been denied, a rebirth, in endless succession). This itself is *manyness*. (Again) the sub-division of the three (by the same three) makes nine. That

¹ The text is here very obscure, and the translation is largely tentative in consequence.

which is beyond even these three (taken separately, i.e., their summation and mutual abolition), the *śhūnya*, the vacuum, the no-thing, where even the Not is not—that is the tenth, the supreme condition. These make up the *ḍaśha-gāṭra*. Then again we have the work, the activity, of I, and Not-I, and Not; and this work is of four kinds, *samyoga*, *viyoga*, *anuyoga*, *praṭiyoga*, conjunction, disjunction, association or similarity, contrast or contraposition (?). (By the sub-division of these by themselves) we have the sixteen *pinḍas*. The eleventh day *śhrāḍḍha* or *pinḍa* is the summation of all, the realisation of the underlying unity. After gaining satisfaction (thus there comes) *pralaya*, dissolution, reabsorption. That is the work of the *Na*. But after the *pralaya*, fresh power having been gained, new work is taken up. There never is a *pralaya* of the Whole at any one single time, but only a successive and endless gradation of *pralayas*, for all that is in *time* is successive. Out of this there again arises the performance of sixteen (offerings) because of the multiplication of the four, I, you, this and another. The annual *pinḍa* means the abandoning of the consciousness of these distinctions and the unification of all the four. Such are the fifty *pinḍas* in the aspect of knowledge.

Vṛṣh-oṭsarga, in this view, means the abandonment of the ever-bellowing bull of separateness, which first manifests in sound (in our system). Vṛṣhabha, the bull, is the sense of separateness, mine, thine, another's, and the 'casting away,' the 'letting loose,' of this is ordained by the science of the Self. So, the shayyā-praḍāna, the gift of a bed, a place of rest (to all beings, in our consciousness) is the service of all beings in consequence of the consciousness of their unity; for whatever is gained from the Self should be given away to and for the sake of all selves. He who knows himself as the Universal Self, he has no egoism, no wish, for his separate individual self, nor any wish for another separated, individual self, but only for duty, i.e., all selves; no svārtha, and no parārtha, but only paramārtha.

The feeding of brāhmaṇas and others is recommended at these sacraments; for according to the extent of his knowledge is the extent of the service that a jīva may claim, and brāhmaṇas are those who have most knowledge. They have risen above the distinction of my-self and another-self, of mine and thine, and know all as One¹; hence the giving of food to them is meritorious. At the same time, because of the fullness of one's own knowledge, and the

¹ See the extant *Vajra-sūchī-Upaniṣhaṭ*.

realisation of relationship with all beings, gifts should be made to all and not only to brāhmaṇas. Hence 'the supplying of nutriment to all' is also declared to be meritorious.

In the true form, the feeding of brāhmaṇas means association with those possessing knowledge. On the principle that mukṭi follows from knowledge of the Truth, the study of that Truth is itself the feeding and clothing and supporting of those that possess that Truth. They who are ever pondering on the Truth in this way are ever feeding brāhmaṇas.

Such then is the death-sacrament. Connected with this is the maraṇ-āśhaucha, the impurity and segregation of the kinsmen and relatives of the deceased for a certain number of days after the death. What is contrary to nature, the non-fulfilment of the requirement of one's nature—this only is impurity, āśhaucha; for what is pure to one is impure to another at the same time, and again, in succession, to the same person, and what is impure becomes the pure and *vice versa*. Impurity and purity are thus relative to time and place. Now, cremation means the destruction of the sṭhūla body, whence anger in the preṭa and fear in the cremator; this condition of fear is the impurity; and according to the perfection of the knowledge of the cremator is the littleness of the impurity.

Hence, the brāhmaṇa, devoted to jñāna, cognition, knowledge, is purified in ten days, because of the triplicity of each combination of cognition, desire and action (?). The kṣhāṭṭriya, devoted to action, becomes pure in twelve days, because of the summation (the further addition) of cognition and action. Kriyā and jñāna enter into combination and the vaishya is the locus of that combination, (i.e., ichchhā); he, therefore, is purified in fifteen days. The shūdra, 'resting on' service, becomes pure in a month after the performance of the required service. The release from fear of the preta by the performance of the dasha-gāṭra, is the purification.¹

¹ The excellent sanitary results on the physical plane of such systematic segregation of families are patent, especially in the case of infectious diseases; and the more so when we remember that infectiousness is only a question of degree and not of kind, that *all* diseases, like even health, like passions, enthusiasms, panics, etc., are infectious, but some very much and some very little. But over and above this, there are the superphysical considerations mentioned in the text. To understand the connexion between the two we have only to call to mind the fact, now generally recognised, that fear is a predisposing cause of disease, being itself in turn the effect of a debilitated nervous system and unhealthy condition of body such as is favorable for development

Three more *śhrāddhas* are spoken of, *ekoddiṣṭha*, *pārvana*, and *sapiṇḍana*. The first 'having one object,' 'addressed to one,' is performed once every year, in the month and on the day of the death; the *jīva* derives comfort therefrom in *Svarga* and *Kāma-loka* by the power of word-sounds; the *mantra* of this ceremony confers happiness in *Kāma-loka*. The second is in the nature of a prayer for the emergence of the *jīva* from *Kāma-loka* and the strengthening of the *kāraṇa*-body; it is offered at a *parva*, joint, junction-point, turning-point. The prayer is addressed to *Vishveḍeva*, the Lord of *Kāma-loka*: Do thou deliver him out of this world, he will do good work in *Svarga*. *Vishveḍeva* hears these prayers only at *parvas*, the junctions of seasons, special occasions, holy days. If there are no such offerings and prayers, the *jīva* dwells in the two places for the full term required by his *karma*. It is true that *karma* cannot be annulled in any case; but what is meant is that the consequent punishment is quickened and its period therefore shortened; this is the justification for the prayer.¹

of the disease-microbe. A family possessed of 'knowledge' would ordinarily not allow itself to fall into such a condition, and so be able to throw off the 'impurity' more easily.

¹ It may also be said that the gifts and charities, etc., accompanying the prayer, help to balance the

In the true form, *ekodḍishṭa* and *pārvana* refer to *jñāna*. The former is the uprising of the One I, its appearance everywhere. The combination of the I with another, in the world-procession, is the latter; for a *parva* is made by a joining of two. The *Ātmā* is established thus; by this means; it is not born, nor ever dies, for such reasons; or is ever dying and being born—such reflexion is *pārvana-shrāddha*. To enhance love with and for all, as if they were

evil and sin committed by the *jīva*. That every *jīva* must suffer the due punishment of his sins, that there can be no 'forgiveness' of sins—requires to be construed in detail. For it is also true that love *can* share sorrow and so make it less, that Christ *can* atone vicariously, that the Ruler *can* forgive sins to the repentant. The exact physical counterparts are the payments of relatives' debts by other relatives, the remission of debts by rich creditors to submissive debtors, the pardon of criminals by imperial prerogative. The reconciliation is that in the endless chain of causes and effects, the infinite complications of Nature's Ledger of transactions between all *jīvas* that are but one Self, the relative who pays *for* another relative, the creditor who remits and forgives, the Christ who atones for others, the King who pardons is only paying back to the debtor, the sinner, the criminal, previous service rendered, to Self or country, or is now registering a loan to be recovered later.

one Self, to know with perfect faith that the Aṭmā is in all the parvas, i.e., saṃsāras or worlds, centres, junction-places of jīvas and of planes of matter—this is pārvāṇa-shrāḍḍha.

Sapindana in the true form means samāna-pinda-karṇa, 'same-body-making,' the co-ordination of all into one, (the reduction of everything, of all the World-process, into the Logion). Brahman is one; the many is not possible; manyness is nothing; the one is the many; the many is the one; nothing is destroyed, or becomes, or stays; destruction and stay are becoming; becoming is destruction and stay; those that have become, stay; those that are staying, dissolve; those that have dissolved, become again—the realisation of this order and succession running through all things is such coordination.

In the conventional form, sapindana is the yojanā, classing, joining, of the departed jīva with the father, the grandfather and the great-grandfather. Yojanā means the making over of the jīva to the hereditary rulers, the spiritual hierarchs of the family, the ṛṣhis, brāhmaṇas, etc., spoken of before, who are in the position of fathers, grandfathers, etc.¹ And this is done

¹ The experiences recorded in theosophical and in the better class of modern spiritualistic literature, go to prove the presence of 'office-bearers' in the 'invisible' worlds of the subtler planes who look

by means of mantras: Behold, this jīva entereth into Kāma-loka and other worlds, do ye protect him. This ceremony is also known as piṭṛ-melana, the 'joining' with the ancestors. Because of this inner significance is the ceremony performed even for those departed ones whose father, grandfather and great-grandfather may be living. The rites are the same for men as well as women; these are 'classed' with the mother, the mother's mother and her mother, etc.

Thus, then, these external ceremonies bring special results, physical and superphysical, in special kinds of pleasure or riddance from pain; but the real aim of all sacraments is to secure

after disembodied jīvas from the physical plane. The elaborate after-death ritual of Hinduism is intended to facilitate the work of these 'office-bearers' so far as possible. The physical devices, the use of fire and of running water, and there too of specially 'sacred' streams, etc., all becomes significant if we remember that the grosser and subtler worlds are not disconnected but correspondent, that they are always working in with each other, on principles of psycho-physical parallelism. Theosophical literature tells us that in the astral world the āpas-taṭṭva predominates; in the mental world, the agni-taṭṭva; therefore there are special contacts between these and the physical water and fire, etc., respectively.

the final illumination. And for this reason is it ordained that for those who have already passed through the fire of knowledge, no second cremation is needed, and *sannyāsīs* are not cremated in consequence. When the final knowledge has been gained, all sacraments are finished. All these sacraments are to be found hidden and taking place in every atom.¹

¹ The modern reader might question why all this excessive elaboration—as it would seem to him—of rites and formalities which remain empty after all the author's attempts to put significance into them? And indeed have not the Hindūs themselves practically given up the bulk of them? For answer—to a questioner in whose mind the whole trend and setting of the line of thought contained in this work, has not wholly failed to touch some even slightly responsive chord—two considerations may be recommended :

(a) It may be that all the elaboration *had* its use in an earlier day, in training the mind, but that only a small portion of it has use now, and is being accordingly retained, while the rest has been or is being, given up by the Hindūs themselves. The *dharma*s change with the *yuga*s, epochs and forms of civilisation—this is expressly recognised in the *Smṛtis* themselves. A definite origin in time, at a particular stage of human evolution, for the *shrāddha* ceremony, is clearly described in the *Mahābhārata*, indicating that the conditions of human constitution, in respect

Thus, then, these five mahā-yajñas, five medhas and sixteen samskāras, extending from birth to death; the life-activity of the jīva from this world up to Svarga; the cause of rebirth; the cause of reincarnation in special bodies; the re-experiencing of pleasures and pains; the mutual relation of objects and their origin; in short, the whole essence of kriyā or action, is described in the Yajur-Veda, together with the absolute necessity of the world-procession and its activity.

of physical and subtler bodies before that time were not such as to require shrāddhas. And in some future day, as seems to be promised by 'spiritualistic' researches and developments, if conscious intercourse between the living and the dead, the 'embodied' and the 'disembodied,' should be fully established again, probably the present *form* of shrāddha would have to become non-existent again. Briefly, with changes of the physical and superphysical conditions of the constitution of man and of his environment, changes take place in the 'sacraments' needed for the full living of his life. In earlier days these changes were deliberately made by 'acts of legislation' of recognised seers and divine kings, in whom people had faith; to-day they are brought about by instinctive struggles and revolutions between ruler and ruled who have little faith in and sympathy for each other.

The first maṇṭra of the Yajur-Veḍa is iś h é-
 ṭvarje'-ṭvā, etc. Beginning with this and up to
 the very end, the whole of kriyā is successive-
 ly described in its relation to time and space,
 without which kriyā is not possible. These
 three, viz., action or motion, time and space,
 themselves constitute 'process,' and by means
 of them is the work of Brahman accomplished.
 Otherwise, indeed :

(b) The second consideration, practically a
 continuation of the first, is that much more elabor-
 ate saṃskāras—only not called by that name but
 designated 'social conventions'—are being created
 by the modern type of civilisation to replace the old
 ones. One reads in a journal of the day that a
 school has been established where young men are
 initiated into the mysteries of the art of using
 knives and forks, etc., correctly while eating in
 company—and so forth. As to whether the one
 set of 'initiations' is better, or the other, whether
 'social conventions of etiquette' is a better name
 than 'sacraments,' whether the religious atmo-
 sphere and high and serious moral tone of the one
 is more elevating or more deadening and depraving
 to human nature, or whether the competitive wish
 to shine as first in everything is such—all this is
 matter of racial taste, itself governed by the general
 scheme of evolution—for 'new' races are mostly only
 new embodiments of the same jīvas, over and over
 again.

¹ The modern reading is ṭvorje.

The Self transcendeth act and space and time.
This Ancient of all ancients needeth not
The offerings of yajñas small or great,
No vows or sacraments of triple thread,
Or piercing of the ear, or marriage-tie,
Or rite before or after birth or death.
Beyond all time and space It ever stands,
Beyond all reach of good or evil things,
I, This, and Not, a trinity in one,
A perfect Consciousness of Being and Bliss.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER VII. Sub-Section (i)

THE SĀMA VEDA.

The nature of Shakti-Energy in general.—Distinction between Shakti, Ichchhā and Māyā.—Māyā and Brahman.—Mahā-māyā, and its sub-divisions, Yoga-māyā, Bhagavati, Yoga-nidrā.

After the *Yajuh* comes the *Sāma*, descriptive of all desire; and as desire connects cognition and action, so the *Sāma* connects the *Rk* and the *Yajuh*. Ichchhā is the energy of Shiva. It indeed is the energy, force, power, of all and everything that has any power; and it is everywhere, omnipresent; without energy relation between two things is not possible. The being together of two things is their relation; and for such relation, such bringing and keeping and being together, of two things, a third thing as connecting link is indispensable, a third which may hold the two together. Ichchhā is this third which brings together cognition and action; and this coming together of these is all work, all (the external, objective, real) World-process, the cognition-element being (the internal subjective, ideal) *Veda* which

is the ideation of Mahā-Viṣṇu. All the 'behavior,' the 'operation,' of time, space, and motion becomes possible only by means of Shakti, and the World-process is but the proceeding forth of these three. That they are considered separately at all is only to secure fullness of treatment; in reality the three are but one.¹ Hence too the One Shakti of the whole World-process is the Brahman-Shakti which only *appears* threefold as Brāhmī, Vaiṣṇavī, and Shaivī. It may be said that only two shaktis should be spoken of (those of cognition and of action, and not also a third, the shakti of desire, which would be tantamount to a 'power of power'), because desire is the one power divided in two by reference to cognition and action; still, because energy is definable only by its work, and because we *find* the three kinds manifesting in work, in the

¹ I have nowhere met in the *Praṇava-Vāda* a definite statement to the effect that space, time and motion are different forms or attributes of the negative aspect of the Na, and that Shakti, Energy, is its affirmative aspect, as is attempted to be shown in chapters xi and xii of *The Science of Peace*; but statements like these in the text here may be regarded as pointing to this. In the *Viṣṇu Bhāgavata* and Vyāsa's *Yoga-bhāṣya* also, such expressions are to be met with as *deśa-kāla-kriyā*, or space-time-motion, and *deśa-kāla-nimitta*, or space-time-cause.

world, as a matter of fact, therefore we also find them dealt with in the *Sāma-Veḍa*¹.

A indicates the Vaiṣṇavī, U the Brāhmī, and M the Shaivī energy. The Vaiṣṇavī energy is the complement, converse or opposite, of *kriyā*, and of the nature of and in accord with *jñāna*. The Brāhmī energy is of the nature of *kriyā* and the converse of *vidyā*, knowledge. The Shaivī energy is of the nature of the nexus between the two and gives rise to *icchā*.

¹ We may justify the three kinds thus: (i) energy as manifesting in cognition; (ii) as manifesting in action; (iii) as in itself, apart from manifestation, as mere desire or emotion.

Because of the endless interplay of 'inseparability' and 'distinguishability' and of the unremitting operation of the law of psycho-physical parallelism, we have the appearances of different psychical processes being predominantly connected with different organs and different kinds and planes of matter, in the world around and in the constitution of human individuals. Thus cognitive consciousness works predominantly in one set of organs and one kind of matter, the desiderative in another, and the active in a third. See *The Science of Peace*, chapters xiii-xiv-xv; *The Trishikha-Brūhmaṇa Upaniṣhaṭ*; *The Secret Doctrine*, vol. III, last section, and *The Ancient Wisdom*, as to the predominance of one of the three aspects of consciousness in one plane of matter and corresponding sheath or body of the *jīva*.

We find the seven *svaras*, musical notes, in the *Sāma*. In describing desire, the *Sāma* deals also with the sextette of *jñāna* and *kriyā* (mentioned before, through which desire manifests) and with their summation, the seventh; and the seven *svaras* correspond to these seven. At first, in the *Samhitā* portion of the *Sāma*, we find only three *svaras*, corresponding to the three energies. So too, in the *Rk* and the *Yajuh*, only the three *svaras* are employed. The seven are developed only in the course of the exposition of *ichchhā* through which alone all things are developed.

By studying the three *vidyās*, sciences, of cognition, action and desire, *Rk*, *Yajuh* and *Sāma*, which are all again developed in a new aspect in the *Sāma*, by itself, as the sciences of the three *shaktis*, and, finally, by studying the *Atharva*, the *jīva* secures the full fruitage of *dharma*, *artha*, *kāma*, and *mokṣha*, virtue, profit, pleasure and salvation, respectively.

Shakti is the necessity of the conjunction of Self and Not-Self, of A and U, of cognition and action. Nothing takes place without necessity. Necessity is all becoming, inherent in and outcome of the *Sva-bhāva*, the nature, of the Absolute. As the *Nyāya* declares: All becoming is necessity. (All becoming, all the World-

process, all possible conjunctions and disjunctions of Self and Not-Self, are contained in the Sva-bhāva, and hence necessary; that Absolute-Nature is the one necessity which is its own reason and the reason and cause of all facts and contradictions which are within it and are it.) Anything, anywhere, all, not-all, other, this, all sounds, all times, all spaces, all cognitions, all actions, the known, the unknown, the done, the undone, the born, the unborn, the present, the non-present, the essence, the non-essence—all this *is*, hence *becomes*: such is the significance of becoming. That which does not become never comes into reckoning at all; it has no word or name for it, there is no consideration of its significance, no remembrance, no forgetting, no recollection of it, no certainty and no uncertainty about it, no possibility and no impossibility of it. The 'not' itself also is or becomes, for unless it became, there would be no such expression as *na-iṭi*, (or *na-aṣṭi*), so-and-so '*is not*'; there would be no conjunction between *na* and *iṭi*. 'Not this thing', 'not this person', 'not another', 'not thou', 'not I', 'is not', 'not is', 'no end', 'no beginning', 'no beginninglessness nor endlessness'—in all these expressions we see the conjunction of the 'not' or 'no' with other words. This conjunction itself is the *becoming* of the 'not'. Without

such conjunction there is no knowledge and no expression of it.

As the *Brahma-Sūtra* declares: As (*i.e.*, is) is necessity. Beyond the *as* is the Soundless, the Timeless, the Spaceless, the Differenceless. For these reasons, then, 'becoming' is necessity. Hence *all* is necessary. As the *Vaiśeṣika* declares: There is not anything that is not necessary. The unnecessary, the contingent, is also fashioned by the necessary, is necessary, is part of the contents of the *Sva-bhāva*. Therefore whatever becomes, and the operation of becoming also, is necessary. The *Sāṅkhya* also declares similarly: Is-ness, *astitva*, is necessity. The necessity of the (conjunction of the) 'not' and the 'is', and of the 'I' and the 'This'—all this is inherent in the Negation. Because of the principle that Necessity is *śakṭi* (*śak*, to be able or possible), *might*, power, energy, do we see that everywhere action arises out of (some) necessity, (a special need). Everyone, imposing upon himself, imagining, feeling, realising some need or necessity, performs some act according to the extent of his knowledge of the means of satisfying that need. This fact may be observed in the movements of every single atom. We see that such first questions, preliminary to acquaintance, as, How do you happen to come here? For what purpose? What

do you want? Who are you? Where do you live? all these really signify, What is the need or necessity that brings you here? By what necessary means have you come here? By what necessity are you staying in the place where you have put up? etc. For residence in any particular place has also its necessary reason, as, otherwise, the Self dwells everywhere and supports all. There is a necessity implied also in the question Who are you?, *viz.*, What is the necessity for your being what you are; why *you* in particular; there must be a reason, a need, a necessity for the knowing, the recognising of, the making of acquaintance with, you; otherwise, multitudes of people see and pass each other every day, and everyone does not ask every other such questions. In the question, For what purpose, *pra-yojana*? the reference to necessity is express. *Pra-yojana* means, etymologically, that wherein the self is engaged, conjoined; and that is necessary, otherwise the self would not be so assiduously engaged therein. Or, by another etymological explanation, that whereby one is impelled to or engaged in some activity is the *pra-yojana*; here 'that whereby' signifies 'by this necessity.' Otherwise, from the standpoint of *Brahman*, all is always 'impelled,' and there is no need for any specification of the impellor as 'he', 'which', 'that

one', 'which one', 'I', 'thou', 'all'. Hence, then, we must recognise necessity everywhere. As the *Brahma-Sūtra* says repeatedly: Every question looks to a necessity, every question bases on a necessity (a reason, a compelling motive).

Therefore are all sounds or words necessary. Without necessity there is no thinking and no utterance of words—this is the view of the science of language, grammar, which further enjoins that the unnecessary, or redundant, and the irrelevant, or inconsistent, word should not be used, but only the well-directed, the necessary, and the easy to follow in thought. Let us consider further that no word exists for which there is not a necessity in its own proper time and space; the irrelevancy and undesirability lie only in the use of the word without due necessity; otherwise, *śabdā* being *Brahman*, all words are relevant, correct, and of universal application. Hence does the *Āṅga-Sūtra* say: The word should be regarded as based on necessity. And the science of *Chhandah*, metre, rhythm or prosody, declares: The word should be selected according to the needs or the necessity of the subject, *i.e.*, the subject-matter dealt with in the work, and of the order of the thought or meaning. The *Kalpa-Sūtra* again avers thus: Thinking is, and is about the,

necessary. And that is the *arṭha*, the idea, the subject-matter thought about, the sense or meaning intended to be expressed. And, finally, the expressor of that *arṭha* is the word, the *śabdā*. Hence is it declared everywhere that the action, aim or purpose, of 'ornaments of language' and 'ornaments of thought' is one and the same.¹ The 'ornament of thought' is the real, inner, necessity, *i.e.*, aim and purpose; the ornament of language is only an additional means of emphasising it. The poet who indulges in mere ornaments of language without an inner substantial ornament of thought is condemned by the science of poetry. Hence does the *Sāhitya-Sūtra*, the aphorisms of rhetoric, say: The ornaments of language and of thought are inter-connected.

So is there the same reference to necessity in the advice that time should not be 'made useless' *i.e.*, wasted, which means that only that should be done at any particular time which it is *necessary* to do at that time; to do anything else is to make time useless, to waste it, and so is

¹ In English, the expression 'figures of speech' seems to cover both, 'ornaments of language,' *e.g.*, alliterations, onomatopœia, deliberate selection of soft-sounding or harsh-sounding words, and 'ornaments of thought,' *e.g.*, similes, metaphors, hyperboles, antitheses, etc.

reprehensible. Otherwise, indeed, time is without beginning and without end, and it is not possible to waste it; it is always passing, whether this thing be done or that other, your work or mine, and it can never be exhausted. But this *transcendental* consideration is not appropriate where *particular* business is in hand, in individual life; for, there, time once passed comes not back again, and even though time be indefinite or transcendent, taken as a whole, yet *within* it is a constant succession of definite 'appointed times,' *i.e.*, moments, periods, cycles, æons, assigned to and fixed for particular purposes. The 'appointed' is the necessary. *Within* the transcendent is the particular time, *this* time, appointed for each 'this.' If *this* does not become, *i.e.*, is not completed, within *this* period, beginning here and ending here, then that time has been wasted, and after it has lapsed, regret remains behind, for the necessity, the need, has not been fulfilled. If, on the other hand, the necessity has been fulfilled, then the lapse of the time leaves behind no regret, but a great satisfaction. Hence too is it clear that joy and sorrow also attend on necessity.

The science of *Jyotiṣha*, astrology, also declares that the calculation of time depends on the necessity of the work for which that calculation is required.

Thus do we see that all becoming is necessity; and becoming is nothing else than conjunction, inter-relation; and conjunction exists or subsists in a pair only; hence the necessity of the conjunction of the two, the *fact*, the deed-act,¹ of becoming (or the being and existence of the fact or process of becoming) is the third to these two. It is *Shakṭi*, *might*, energy, which is therefore called the *cause* of *Samsāra*.

This *Shakṭi* is the originator, reverser, and permuter of beginning, middle and end, and it inheres in the Logion, I-This-Not. The *svārūpa*, the own-form, of this *Shakṭi* is *aś*, 'is.' Its manifestations are the affirmations: I am, I am this, I am not this, I am such, I am not such, how am I, why am I, why am I not, how am I not, I verily am, etc. Without the *aś*, *is* or *am*, the Logion I-This-Not is nothing at all, is meaningless. (Thou) 'art' and (he) 'is' are also based on, derive their significance from, (I) 'am.' It is only on the strength of and with the consciousness 'I am' that one *jīva* says to another: Thou art, thou art this, thou art thus, etc. The case of 'is' is similar. Without the 'am' there is no speaker of the 'art' or 'is'; without a speaker there is no employment

¹ Compare Fichte's "Thatsache," and "That-Handlung" (Kroeger, xix). Professor Harris' introduction is very interesting in the light of the following (E. H. B.).

of the second or the third person (of grammar)¹. In one sense, indeed, because the Aham, I, exists everywhere, and as, is, is everywhere inherent in it, therefore everyone becomes, in turn, according as he is the speaker, or listener or spoken about, the first, the second, or the third person. Thus, in truth, all is but as, is, Necessity, and first, second, and third persons are nothing.

The 'am' is the Self, the 'art' is the This, the 'is' is the Not. This difference of persons arises because the thought or knowledge, I-This-Not, is present in everyone and everywhere, so that each one thinks 'I (am)-not-this,' and thus separates himself away as 'I,' including all the rest in 'this' and 'not'. Otherwise, indeed, all *ḍhāṭus*, verb-roots, roots of action, are but one, *viz.*, to be, to become; and all action proceeds from and because of the root; hence all action is one². That is to

¹ All this is only another but fresh and suggestive way of saying that *my*-consciousness, and, because there are ever so many *my*-consciousnesses each cognisant of others, therefore the one universal My-Consciousness or All-Self-Consciousness, is the necessary foundation of all individual consciousnesses whatsoever; it is the one sole proof and testimony of the existence of any and everything.

² The text is very obscure here and I am not quite sure of the accuracy of my translation.

say, there is but one noun, the 'I,' but one verb 'to be,' and but one unbroken action or motion in the whole of the world-process, *i.e.*, 'becoming,' the self-assertion of the Self in endless ways.

(The primal trinity has been repeatedly declared to consist of three factors, I, This, and Not. What is this *Shakṭi*, then; is it a fourth? ¹) It would seem as if it was outside the three. Yet this is not so. It is only the Necessity of the three and so included in them and not anything apart from them. That which is necessary to anyone is included in that one, is part of his being. In the moment that anyone is feeling the

¹ The question of the place of *Shakṭi* in the Logion is dealt with in a slightly different aspect, here, from that in which it is treated in the *The Science of Peace*. Possibly the reader may find it easier to follow the text here if he is familiar with the idea put forward there, *viz.*, that the *relation* of Negation between Self and Not-Self, because of the limitedness of the Not-Self, which makes *simultaneity* of affirmation and negation impossible, necessarily becomes a *successive* affirmation-negation; and this *necessary succession*, of affirmation and then Negation, is the real nature and form of *Shakṭi*, so that *Shakṭi* may be regarded as one aspect and Negation as the other of the third factor, *i.e.*, the Relation, which is immanent in the Self and Not-Self, or rather is immanent together with the Not-Self, in the Self.

necessity, the need, for anything, in that moment he is feeling himself as nothing else than, as nothing without, the object of his desire. (This is the inner significance of the ordinary expressions, 'his soul, his very being, is bound up with the loved object, without it he dies, is nothing.') It is true that from the position of the necessary or desired object, i.e., when it has been attained, there will appear still another necessary or desired object further on in the distance, and this endlessly, but for the time being the consciousness of the desiror rests there, in the first desired object. (Consciousness is *s a m- v i ṭ*, that which 'knows well'). That which knows another well is itself knowable by that other ; on this principle, the *Ā ṭ m ā*, the desiror, the Lover, becomes included in or with and non-separate from the desired object, the Beloved. Because the reality is one even when it appears as separate, because the necessity is its own necessity, therefore its own light or life is included, is present, in that which it thinks to be necessary to its own being ; and hence only the pursuit of the desired by the desiror becomes possible and results actually. By the union of man and woman, progeny arises. The man is the first, the woman the second, the child the third. The *necessity*-bond of this triplet is *k ā m a*, love. This *k ā m a* is included in the three, and not outside of and apart from

them; it is *understood* when the three are referred to. Of course, in a verbal enumeration, *kāma* would be mentioned separately, but in reality, the whole of its existence is included in the existence of the three.

This one and the same Energy, in its supreme and universal aspect, is called *Shakṭi*; in its non-supreme or subsidiary, particular, concrete, aspect it is called *icchā*; in its all-transcendent, absolute aspect, *Māyā*. When we say that *Māyā* is nothing, we should remember that the 'no' belongs of necessity to *Māyā*.¹ The form and nature of necessity is no-thing determinate, but always indeterminate and transcendent, for necessity is all-transcending, beyond space, time, and action or motion. (That is to say, necessity being the changeless nature or *Svabhāva* of the Absolute, which is *Self-determined into all possible forms* in the World-process, there being no other determinor—it follows that this absolute necessity is absolute freedom or indeterminateness also; and again because it is essentially the negation of all affirmation of any and all possible particulars, therefore is it truly *no-thing* too).

¹ It may be that *Māyā* is the equivalent of what is described in *The Science of Peace* as 'Shakṭi-energy as condition,' or time-space-motion. These three are emptinesses and *Māyā* is by Samskr̥t etymology *अना*, 'that which is not'.

But it may be asked : A difference is made everywhere between Māyā and Brahman ; the counsel is constantly given that we should free ourselves from Māyā and become Brahman, that Māyā is the maker of separateness and we should therefore abandon it and realise Brahman ; (how then can we say that Māyā is the necessity, the very nature of Brahman)? . The reply is : In this counsel, the word Māyā means something else than the Supreme Necessity ; it means the separate, personal and particular forms of desire, the feelings of mine, thine, etc., created necessarily by the Self by means of nescience (the half-science, half-truth or error, included in the Whole Truth, Viḍyā), the fixed ideas that this only should be done, this avoided, this has been gained, this lost, this is certain and permanent, this uncertain, this desirable, this undesirable, and so on. The counsel means that we should rather think that (from the totality of all standpoints) all is desirable, all is thine, I am thou, (there cannot be anything that is exclusively) mine or thine, thou art I, another is I, I am another, all is necessary and preordained, all should be done, all is one, one is all, there is no one and many, all is everywhere and everywhen and everyway, all belongs to everything and everything to all ; abandon that primitive māyā that is the personal desire of mineness and creates

separateness, and embrace instead the Supreme Māyā that is identical with Brahman, the one Necessity, the unified Trinity.¹

As Shakti is sub-divided into Viṣṇu's jñāna-shakti, Brahmā's kriyā-shakti and Shiva's ichchhā-shakti, so is Māyā also sub-divided into Yoga-māyā, Bhagavati, and Yoga-nidrā, corresponding to Viṣṇu, Brahmā and Shiva respectively. The necessity whereby the conjunction of Aham with Eṭaṭ is brought about is yoga-māyā, the maker of the worlds, for without this conjunction there is no possibility of the existence of samsāra, and indeed the conjunction itself is called samsāra. Bhagavati is connected with kriyā; bhaga is aishvarya, lordship, sovereignty, the wealth of action. It is the necessity of Eṭaṭ (which, because of the inherent limitedness of each eṭaṭ, gives rise to succession). Yoga-nidrā is the necessity of the Negation which brings about the disjunction of Aham and Eṭaṭ, and so the dissolution of

¹ In the language of practical social ethics, 'Do not remain passionately wedded to particular opinions, holding all others in error—which egoism is the quintessence of prejudiced bigotry; but learn to take broad-minded and tolerant views, seeing that even the most divergent opinions and doctrines have some element of the One Truth in them. See *The Secret Doctrine*, Vol. I, p. 282, foot-note.

worlds; it is that which *sleeps* in or brings to sleep the conjunction of I and Not-I. The summation of these three is the Māhā-māyā (in a general metaphysical sense; but it has a particular sense also, viz.,) it or she is the shakṭi of Mahā-Viṣṇu the lord of the mahā-manvāntara, the cycle of this samsāra. Strictly, of course, this shakṭi is not a possession, a private belonging, of Mahā-Viṣṇu. There is only one Necessity or energy which receives various graded names of great, small, etc., according to the grades of the various agents through whom it manifests. All other similar names (and metaphysical words) should also be interpreted similarly, everywhere and always, as having a double significance, one personal and particular and the other impersonal or universal and transcendental.¹

¹ In connexion with Mahā-Māyā, apparently to illustrate the two meanings mentioned in the text, the author quotes a shloka, from the current *Durgā-Sapṭa-shaṭī*, as to how by the special grace of Mahā-Māyā, Sāvarṇi became the eighth Manu and the ruler of a manvāntara. In commenting upon the verse the ṛṣhi makes a number of statements as to occult cycles, etc., which are very obscure. Some figures have been given before, in the 2nd chapter of the 3rd Section as to cycles and worlds and world-rulers; they too, it will be remembered, are not easy to synthesise. Making a rough guess as to the author's meaning, it seems to be that

7th manvantaras or 7th mahā-manvantaras make the vinihiṭa-cycle which is the lifetime of our Sun (?), who is the body of Mahā-Viṣṇu ; that in this particular mahā-manvantara of fourteen Manus,—the 7th of which Manus, *viz.*, Vaivasvata is now ruling us in the 4th Vaivasvata-manvantara and the 28th viyuga,—by some special ordainment of the individual goddess Mahā-Māyā, the consort of Mahā-Viṣṇu, Sāvarṇi becomes the 8th and most important Manu, apparently exercising some authority over the whole of the seven manvantaras, retrospective and prospective, and over all the other thirteen Manus, being in some special manner, the special son of Sūrya, the Sun. It may be asked what is the difference between Shakti and its three sub-divisions of jñāna-shakti, kriyā-shakti and ichchhā-shakti (or, as they are called in their personal aspect, Vaishnavī, Brāhmī, and Shaivī), on the one hand, and Māyā or Mahā-Māyā and its three sub-divisions of Yoga-māyā Bhagavatī and Yoga-nidrā, on the other. Apparently only the difference between dynamic and static aspects of the same energies; the former series of names gives prominence to the active or manifested aspect; the latter to the potential and self-contained one. Or, it may be said that the difference is that between the universal and the particular, the generic and the specific; somewhat like that between saṭ-chiḍ-ānanda and kriyā-jñāna-ichchhā, or between saṭṭva-rajas-tamas and guṇa-karma-dravya. See the opening sentences of the next chapter also.

SECTION III. (*Continued*).

CHAPTER VII. (*Continued*).—Sub-Section (ii).

THE SĀMA-VEĎA.

Particular forms of Shakti-Energy.—Sarasvatī Lakṣhmī, Saṭī.—Their summation in Paramā.—Their sub-divisions.

Yoga-māyā, etc., are the universal aspects of Energy, based on I-This-Not, and present in each single atom; but the individual shaktis of the rulers of this world are Lakṣhmī, Sarasvatī and Saṭī. The order just mentioned is the principal order, but they may be taken in any other order, Sarasvatī, Lakṣhmī, Saṭī or Saṭī, Lakṣhmī, and Sarasvatī, etc. Sarasvatī is devoted to cognition, Lakṣhmī to action, and Saṭī to desire.

Brahmā, the upholder of action, is, however, entirely powerless to perform any action without the power of cognition; action without knowledge is not possible; hence he takes Sarasvatī as his help-mate. Again, the power of cognition is ineffective and useless without the power of action; hence Viṣṇu takes Lakṣhmī for consort. Because of the conjunction between I and This, and the mutual dependence of cognition and action, these two powers are

exchanged between Brahma and Viṣṇu. The Self is knowledge; in order to conjoin with the Not-Self, action, it needs the energy thereof; and *vice versa*. That which unites with another takes on the powers, the work, and the time-cycle or life-period of that other. So long as there is not a complete co-ordination and unity in all these three respects there is no possibility of a conjunction, there is no *is-ness*, existence, reality, in the conjunction. This is the significance of the ceremony of marriage, which is the imitation, in the outer world (of these divine marriages). In a sense, all women have the same *s v a-b h ā v a*, nature (*i.e.*, femininity); all have the same limbs, and the same work or function and so are one; yet, by difference of situation, they, each, have different relations with different persons: the wife of one—the daughter of another, the daughter of one—the wife of another, and so on. Throughout, however, wifehood is the principal element in the nature of woman generally; the inner principle whereof is only the conjunction of I and This. As the *Brahma-sūtra* declares: Yoga, conjunction, union, is the mutual completion of two incompletes.

Finally there is the *i c h c h h ā-s h a k ṭ i* of Shiva, *viz.*, Saṭi, of the nature of Negation. As indicated by the etymology of the name Shiva, *viz.*, *sh e ṭ e*, he who sleeps in all, the Not is

inter-present between I and This. These two make up the all and in them sleeps the Not, in the shape of (affirmative-negative) desire, and abolishes them both. This Saṭī is the disjoiner of conjoined pairs, for the transformation of the complete into incompletes is disjunction; and the Negation disjoins the I and the This. It is indeed present in them both, at their beginning middle and end, and always and everywhere separates them. That which is not limited by space, time and *va s t u*, substance, substantiality, thisness, is *sa ṭ*, being; that which possesses *sa ṭ*, is Saṭī. I-This is limited (in the World-process of particular experiences) by space, time and substance; *sa ṭ* is opposed thereto (negates the limitation); hence the *shakṭi* of Shiva is named Saṭī.¹

The summation of these three, the *shakṭi* of Mahā-Viṣṇu, is the Paramā-Shakṭi.

Each of these three is again sub-divided many times.

Lakṣhmī has three forms: Ramā, Lakṣhmī and Shārādā. That wherein all rejoice or play, *ra ma n ṭe*, i.e., expand endlessly, for play is expansion, is Ramā, connected with cognition. That whereby every object is manifested, *lak ṣ hy a ṭe*, is seen or made visible, is Lakṣhmī,

¹ The significance of these observations will be developed further in the next chapter on the *Aṭharva-Veḍa*.

connected with action. That whereby the *jīva* discards all, *sharaḍaṭi*, is *Shāraḍā*, connected with *ichchhā*.

Sarasvaṭi is sub-divided into *Aindrī*, *Brāhmī*, and *Sarasvaṭi*. That which pervades, *iṇḍaṭi*, is *Indra*, and the necessity or energy of the pervasion is *Aindrī*, connected with action; *Brāhmī* is connected with desire; and *Sarasvaṭi* with cognition.

The sub-divisions of *Saṭi* are *Saṭi*, *Gaurī* and *Pārvaṭi*, respectively corresponding to desire, cognition and action. The status of the *guru*, the giver of knowledge, is *gauram*, and that to whom this belongs is *Gaurī*. The nature of the cognition here is, 'This-(is) Not-possible' 'Not-I-anything,' 'Not-I-This'. 'Not-This-I'; and accordingly we see in the world that on the acquisition of some partial knowledge (of the distinction between the permanent and the impermanent) dislike and weariness of the world arise in the *jīva*. Finally, we have *Pārvaṭi*, the daughter of the *Parvata*, (literally, the mountain) which signifies the transcendence of the Negation. The power of realising or expressing this Negation in action, is *Pārvaṭi*; it is the power of performing such actions as end in destruction of self as well as another.¹

¹The text here goes off into a symbolical explanation of *Himāchala*, the mountain of snow, etc. It may be noted, in passing, that the explanation given in

The summation of these nine *śhakṭis* is the tenth, Bhairavī, of the nature of *śhūnya*, vacuum. He who protects, *avaṭi*, the *samsāra* or *bhaira*, is Bhairava, and his power of protection is Bhairavī.

Such are the ten Mahā-Vidyās. The possessor of all these is the omnipotent Īshvara. The relation between the four Īshvaras of this *samsāra*, viz., Mahā-Viṣṇu, Viṣṇu, Shiva and Brahmā, and their *śhakṭis*, is that of *sākṣhāṭ-kāra*, mutual facing, vision, association.

The *avasthā*, (? condition, state, status, constitution, standing, standing-place) of the potency and its possessor is one (and the same ?), and this status is named the vehicle. The vehicle of Viṣṇu is Garuḍa; of Brahmā, Hamsa; of Shiva, Vṛṣhabha.

Garuḍa signifies succession in the transcendence of time, knowledge in and of parts and particulars in succession. Hamsa is space. Vṛṣhabha is motion. Mahā-Viṣṇu occupies one cycle within endless time; so Viṣṇu too is the promulgator the text of Pārvaṭī would have fitted in better with the current Purāṇic legend about Saṭī, who destroyed herself and was the cause of the destruction of her father's sacrificial arrangements; also that where the word *gaṇam* is mentioned above, modern Samskr̥t would say *gaṇavam*; and that *parva* means a joint, a junction-point.

of (one sub-cycle of) the cycle of Mahā-Viṣṇu. Only that portion of time (or sub-cycle) is Garuḍa which is or corresponds to the aspect of jñāna. The marvel of the vast movement of time is spoken of everywhere. The sweep of Garuḍa is similar in nature; in the moment of cognition it reaches into the All, the Supreme, the Transcendent; and this is true of every atom. Viṣṇu causes the samsāra to be known, to become knowable, and he, in setting the time-bounds of knowledge, in the moment of his own cognition, examines and ascertains all that is ordained for his cycle and then settles down to work. The significance is that he regards all selves as his own work (kārya, effect, progeny?), of himself and within himself, and therefore he moves to the help of his devotees when grief befalls them, leaving even his Garuḍa i.e., the proper time, behind.¹

(Such a change in the course of what has been described above as preordained necessity is

¹ This explanation refers to the Purāṇic legends according to which, in many instances, Viṣṇu has left his Garuḍa behind when it could not carry him sufficiently swiftly to the side of his devotee in trouble, that is to say, in other words, when it became necessary to modify a current law in accordance with a higher or larger law. (See *Viṣṇu-Bhāgavata* VIII, iii, where, also, Garuḍa is described as composed of the *Veḍas*; and the *Gāruḍopaniṣad*.)

possible for two reasons, mainly. In the first place, the event itself is not changed, but only the order, the succession in time, of events.¹ Secondly, the preordainment is perfect and literal only in the transcendental sense, *i.e.*, when we are thinking of the All, the Absolute ; the pre-arrangement of the particular course of events of any particular cycle is fixed only in a general sense by the

¹ Change within changelessness is possible where the All is the Changeless, and the juxtaposition or succession of the parts is changeable. Where the balance of spirit and matter in any part—any separated portion—is such that the part becomes, self-moving as well as moved from without, moved by motives as well as by impacts, the position of that part relatively to other parts is constantly changing, apart from the action of the mechanical laws imposing changes on all parts. Hence a prophecy (based on the 'vision' of a *limited* number of facts and *planes*) which tells of a sequence in the future, a sequence which exists at the time of the prophecy and is *seen—foreseen* only metaphorically—may be rendered false by subsequent changes in the position of one of the parts, causing a change in the sequence the causal changes being self-motived (in consequence of facts *beyond* the limits on which the prophecy was based), and at the time of the prophecy not indicated ; in fact, sometimes the prophecy (being brought out by causes deeper than its own plane) may itself act as a new cause, and avert its own fulfilment. (A.B.)

desire or will, *i.e.*, the necessity of the nature, of the ruler of that cycle, who is, in turn, subject to the desire of a higher ruler, and may therefore occasionally be over-ruled by him, and so on, endlessly.)

The vehicle of Brahmā is appropriately the Hamsa,¹ *i.e.*, space, wherein all action takes place. As the *Nyāya* says: The sub-divisions of the quarters, the directions or cardinal points, are in the Hamsa. In reality, transcendence underlies space also, and space is only a name for a certain kind of succession.²

¹ It is well-known, in current Samskr̥t mystic literature also, that h a m - s a is only s a h - a h a m, 'That-am-I,' reversed.

² From one standpoint of course, space is best characterised as simultaneity, and time as succession; but both are *realised*, seen, felt, experienced, in the *succession* of the World-process, only in and by *motion*, which is explicitly successive, though implying also the being of something in and for which it takes place and which being, as a whole, exists or is simultaneously in all its constituent parts; therefore it *may* be said that, from another point of view, space is also a kind of succession, *viz.*, that very rapid kind which appears as simultaneity. The general principle under which all individualised objects divide up into inner and outer, ideal and real, abstract and concrete, applies here also. (See *The Science of Peace*, p. 283 *et seq.*)

That which moves, hides, or energises destructively, *vṛṣhayaṭe*, within *jñāna* and *kriyā*, is *Vṛṣhabha*, the Bull, the vehicle of Shiva; it is connected with the two, because they only, as being in space and time, are possible to destroy; it is the succession in the Negation.¹

The *śakṭis* of the gods have the same vehicles as the gods. *Aindrī*, the *śakṭi* of *Indra*, rides on an elephant, which signifies the conjunction of space and time, intoxicate with action, ever endeavouring to bring about a connexion between *jñāna* and *kriyā*. *Vaiṣṇavī* rides on the eagle; *Māheshvarī* on the bull; *Kaumārī* on the peacock; *Brāhmī* on the swan; *Lakṣmī* on the lotus; the white goddess, *Dhārā*, on the antelope; and so on. All these vehicles differ with and symbolise the different functions of their owners.²

¹ Compare the fact of the disintegration of tissue and the formation of poisonous toxins in the organism with each exercise of function under the stress of desire, with the statements in the text about the destructive or negative property of desire and the venom in the throat of Shiva.

² These names are different from those of the subdivisions previously mentioned of the three principal *śakṭis*. Probably *Aindrī*, *Kaumārī*, etc., are the 'wives' of the sub-hierarchs of the three principal gods. These sub-hierarchs are referred to elsewhere, without mention of names and details. *Aindrī* is the consort of *Indra*; *Kaumārī* of *Kumāra* and so on.

The ornaments assigned to the divinities are similarly symbolical of functions. Thus, the lotus, the seat of Lakṣhmī, represents *jñāna*. For this reason, indeed, is Brahmā said to arise out of the lotus ; that is to say, action arises by or from knowledge. The coming together, the facing each other, of the two, Self and This, is cognition ; and in this act or process the name Brahmā is uttered (? given), for to name is also to bring face to face, as when we call another to us, (externally, or call up his picture in imagination, internally). Such names are given by *jīvas* to each other in order to indicate the specific, concrete aspect of the individual, for, otherwise, all are one in essence. At the primal conjunction of I and This, the *nāma-karaṇa*, the name-baptism, of Brahmā, Viṣṇu, and Shiva takes place. The description of Lakṣhmī as 'lotus-handed' has the same significance ; the hand is the organ of action and that holds fast to knowledge. So the other epithet of Lakṣhmī, *viz.*, Hari-priyā, beloved of Hari, signifies the power of gathering together, bringing together ; for *haraṭi* implies taking, leading on to, bringing up, conveying.

That which upholds, *ḍharaṭi*, appoints, assigns and establishes every one to and in his proper place and time and function is *Ḍharā*, the white or luminous, the shining goddess, the

Īshvari, the summation of the other three *śakṭis*, the supreme power of Mahā-Viṣṇu, riding the Mṛga which signifies the whole mass of cycles from the *vinihīṭa* down to the *mahā-manvāntara*.

The reference to gems, in the descriptions of the gods and goddesses, indicates that these powers are present in all *dravyas*, substances, which are represented by gems (?)¹

¹ The text is very obscure here; possibly the intention is that the descriptions, while symbolical, are at the same time indicative of literal facts also. The gems, jewels, and other objects that symbolise various functions, also literally help on those functions, in subtle ways, even as medical drugs affect such functions in palpable ways. That *one* consciousness runs through all things and beings; that *one*, even though *pseudo-one*, matter composes the bodies of all beings and things; that the triple subdivision with its permutations and combinations permeates, ramifies and revels through all the World-process; that all animate and so-called inanimate beings and things are interconnected; that nowhere is there a real break or division in nature, but that all is continuous one with another; that there are only differences of degree and never absolutely of kind—if these facts are always borne in mind all these old traditions will appear not unreasonable, and new and useful facts may be discovered with their help. [The theosophist divides the concrete world-system into seven groups, and

It must not be understood from all that has been said above that *śhakṭis* are really many, *i.e.*, essentially separate; they are indeed all but various forms of the one *Śhakṭi*, the supreme Necessity of the Logion. The 'becoming,' the 'coming forth,' the appearing one after another, the necessary observance of a time-sequence, a successive existence, by I, This, and Not—this only is manyness; and hence appears manyness everywhere. Substance, action, motion, method, power, space, time, before, after, order, *yoga*, etc.,—each of these is many—and all this manyness, and with all its permutations, is enclosed in the AUM.

arranges within these groups, in ascending order, all elemental substances, minerals, vegetables, animals, and men. These seven spring from the three. This lies at the root of the idea of sacred plants and sacred animals, the 'sacred' plant or animal being merely the one in which the characteristics of the whole group are most powerfully summed up. All minerals similarly fall into groups, and the 'sacred' gems are those that sum up the influences incarnated in each group. By the use of the magnetism of the gem or plant or animal, a man may strengthen that magnetism in himself, and thus more readily come into touch with the *devas* of the group, whether to gain knowledge from them or to utilise their powers. A truly scientific classification of natural objects must be made by subdivisions within these great natural divisions. (A.B.)].

The names of this multi-une Shakti are many.¹



¹ A long list of names follows here, each significant of one special aspect or function—but they are not explained in the text.

SECTION III. (*Continued*).

CHAPTER VII (*Continued*). Sub-Section (iii).

THE SĀMA-VEĎA.

The need to meditate on Necessity.—The contents of the *Sāma-Veḍa*.—Considerations as to variations in the order of succession of cognition, etc.—The significance of devotion and of hymns and singing, generally.

The acquirement of the knowledge of this Necessity is alone *ḍ h y ā n a*, thinking, meditation; the *ḍ h y e y a*, the object of thought or meditation, is the Necessity. There is no thinking without necessity. Only that object is thought about regarding which a desire arises, and only at that time; no other object and at no other time. Or, if, with great exertion, the thought is driven into another direction, it is but sin, *p ā p a*. For sin is nothing else than the neglecting of the real necessity of the Self (*i.e.*, the higher Self) and engaging it in something else. Otherwise, there is no *p ā p a* and no *p u ṇ y a*, no sin and no merit. Hence indeed the counsel: He who neglects the certain and goes after the uncertain, loses both. The certain here means the necessary. Also: Let the wise man welcome insult and put pride behind him,

and accomplish his duty. In doing that which is necessary, *i.e.*, is required by duty, there is neither honor nor dishonor. These two are connected with the unnecessary. Praise is given for the doing of what is not obligatory, what is more than necessary; it is pronounced in the *uḍāṭṭa-svara*, the 'loud' tone: 'he has done what it was not his obligatory duty to do, what was difficult to do.' Blame is also similarly given, but in the *anuḍāṭṭa-svara*, the 'low' tone: 'He has done what was improper, against his duty to do.' One's duty, one's proper work, is accompanied by the *svariṭa-svara*, the 'even' tone, wherein there is neither praise nor blame¹. Dawn, sunset and noon, and night and day recur most regularly, of necessity; none thinks of praise or blame for them, though all rejoice therein. And the lesson from this is that all actions should be done in the same way. *Nīti*, ethics, is the science which teaches what is necessary to do.² There is a need, a neces-

¹ This whole page is an illustration in an especial degree of what the whole work impresses continually upon the mind of the reader, *viz.*, the importance, the dignity, the profundity, the connexion with essentials, of the so-called familiar and commonplace.

² For a full exposition of this idea, *viz.*, that the right act is the act which, at that time and place, at that stage in evolution, best forwards the evolution of the world, and thus accords with the will of

sity for this action at this time, this conduct brings about this result, the way of the accomplishment of such a thing is this, this is the proper act in this reference, this the allotted time, the space or place, etc.,—is all taught by *Niṭi*.

Hence the need to meditate on Necessity: 'Thou art the *saṇḍhyā*, the *sāvitrī*, the mother of all'. *Sanḍhyā* is the object, the proper time, and also the process of true prayer and meditation, *saṃyaka-ḍhyāna*. The many hymns addressed to *Shakti*, all indicate Her importance. These prayers and salutations imply the wish for possession of Her in Her aspect of power to fulfil our wants, and signify the supreme and compelling power of Necessity. Indeed all mutual human and other salutation and reply, and prayers and other conventions, also, all refer to the satisfaction of each other's 'needs,' the helping of each other in and with their wants. *Vaṇḍana* and *abhi-vāḍana*, obeisance and salutation, mean but this: 'I am younger than thou; behold my need and fulfil it'; and *praṭy-abhi-vāḍa*, the reply, similarly means the gracious acceptance of the office of helper: 'I see thy need and shall endeavour to satisfy it; I am thine and thou art mine, etc.'

Īshvara in helping the world to reach its appointed goal—see *The Advanced Text-Book of Sanāṭana Dharma*, Part. III.

The *Sāma-veḍa*, from its beginning, 'O Fire! come to purify us,' up to the very end, is dedicated to a description of the nature of this *Shakṭi*. All such matters as these: What is the necessity underlying the divisions of the world, its distinctions, differences, separatenesses? What is this separateness and how does it arise? What is the proof, origin and significance of numbers, 1, 2, 3, etc., and what is the necessity of their existence and increase and infinite multiplication? What is the nature and necessity of numberlessness and of its operation? What is the power of retention, whereby learning, bodied knowledge, is always present to the mind? What is the necessity of Power or Energy; of energy within energy; the energy of succession; the power of time; the necessity of divisions of time; of divisions of action; of summation; of cognition, reflexion, contemplation, deliberation, 'revolving in mind,' the work of *buḍḍhi*, reason or intelligence, generally; the power of the organs to perceive; the necessity of *grāhaka*s, receivers (sense-organs), *prāpaka*s, transmitters (media, ether, air, light, saliva) *prāpya*s, objects? What is the necessity of actor, causation, mode, real and unreal or true and false conduct; of omnipotence, transcendent power, of the power that is the cause of the origin of the elements, and of their quintuplication? What is the

necessity of mutual relationship; of the power or energy of the atom; of ideation; of substance, attribute and movement; of the distinction between principal and secondary, generality and singularity, division and unity, worker and instrument, words, meanings, things and thoughts? The use of decision, final conclusion, determination; the power of doubt and certainty; the necessity and the succession thereof; the cause of their appearance; the use of marks and definitions? The endlessness and beginninglessness, as well as the beginnings and ends, of 'becomings' and 'destructions'? Birth and death and simultaneousness? The ability to do work; attainment and failure; the use and significance of *ḍ h a r m a*, *a r ṭ h a*, *k ā m a* and of their summation in *m o k ṣ h a*; each cause whereby each thing 'becomes,' with its necessity and its law; each pleasure and pain, each joy and sorrow; *p r a l a y a*, the dissolution of the world; and *s a n n y ā s a*, renunciation, and all the activity of *i c h c h h ā*; and the co-ordination and synthesis of all things whatsoever, worlds within atoms, and atoms within those worlds again, endlessly—all this is dealt with in the *Sāma-Veḍa*.

It may be asked why the *Sāma-Veḍa* was not placed after the *Rk*, when the usual order is: first, cognition; then *s a ṇ k a l p a*, i.e., resolution,

or *ichchhā*, i.e., desire; and then *yaṭna*, conation or *kriyā*, i.e., action. The reply is that because of the universality of the principles enunciated in the *Sāma*, it is, truly speaking, needed before, during, as well as after *kriyā*. *Ichchhā* pervades everything, i.e., the other two factors. But for this very reason is it counted third (after the two factors which it pervades). So, in the AUM itself, M or Negation, which pervades and connects the other two, is placed third. From the end it can reach out everywhere. Hence the *Brahma-sūtra*: 'The beginning and the end are not separate.'¹ From another standpoint, it may be said indeed that the order does not matter. The first becomes the last and the last first; hence the absence of difference. A beginning may be made with the end; in place of AUM we may read MUA. But for practical purposes the I must be posited first, then the This, and then the two should be reduced to or connected by the Not. In every *Veda*, the order is *jñāna*, *ichchhā*, *kriyā* (?)². In the *Atharva* the order is the same, at

¹ Compare the English saying, 'Extremes meet'.

² The text seems to require some elucidation here. The successive parts of each *Veda* i.e., *Mantra*, *Brāhmaṇa*, *Upaniṣad* and *Tantra*, correspond to cognition, action, desire, and summation, rather than cognition, desire, action and summation. Possibly there-

first; then, again, *ichchhā*, then *jñāna*, then *kriyā*; or again, *jñāna* in or after *kriyā*; and this is so, because in the summation the order becomes manifold by permutation. Knowledge is possible in, by, or after action, as may be seen in the fact that by imitation of another's action one may also obtain his results in knowledge and become like him.

In this way there is always order in the World-process as well as violation thereof, *i.e.*, law and exception and higher law and so on, endlessly, the following out of the one in the many being

fore what is meant here is only that the order of cognition, desire and action, is referred to in every *Veda* as the usual order of rotation of these three factors or aspects of consciousness. This is so because the connecting link, desire, should come between the two factors connected, I and Not-I, corresponding to cognition and action. 'I know it, I like it, I seek it'—is the normal way of life. At the same time, in order to illustrate the fact that no possibility can be excluded from the World-process, we have these also: 'I wish to know; I try to learn, I am doing all I can to find out; I know how to act, I know how to choose, etc.' But again, however, on analysis, these so to say abnormal forms are also always reducible to the normal. Their mere existence, though, is sufficient justification for the text. (See foot-note at pp. 31-35 *supra*). Also while the relation *exists between* the things related, it is *observed or described after* they have been.

order or law, and the appearance of the many in the one disorder and exception.¹

Bhakti, devotion, resides in the *Sāma-Veḍa* as a means to mokṣha. There is no inconsistency between this statement and the other, that mokṣha results from true knowledge. From the standpoint of bhakti,² mokṣha or liberation is an action, and action requires desire as motive and knowledge as guide. Mokṣha, thus, can be secured only by means of appropriate action under the stress of appropriate desire (arising out of appropriate knowledge). Hence the statement that it is obtained by chanting the *Sāma*.

As the *Rk* expounds the methods of studying and teaching, and the *Yajuh* those of performing yajña-sacrifice, so the method of chanting

¹In the language of evolutionists, the 'rule' becomes the principle of natural selection, and the 'breach of rule' corresponds to the principle of spontaneous variation. The pre-existence, in possibility, of such endless variations is the element of truth in the one view, viz., that of the eternal fixity of species. The unfolding of the possibility along graduated lines is the truth in the supplemental view, viz., that of evolution.

²Bhakti and bhajana, seem to come from the same root as devotion, voting, vowing, *vovere*, *votum*, 'reproducing in oneself the characteristics of the object of devotion, the ideal'. (See *Rāma-Tāpāni-Upaniṣhaṭ*.)

hymns is taught in the *Sāma* ; and such singing or chanting arises only out of *bhakti*. A hymn is a description of the deeds, the life-work, of the ideal, and deeds are dependent on the desire, the power, of that ideal. It may be said that a hymn assumes a separateness between devotee and lord ; but the conventional relations of greater and smaller do arise in the world by and of necessity, and in these circumstances a hymn is appropriate, (especially, as, though it begins with an assumption of separateness, it aims at union, equalisation). Every hymn signifies : Thou art so great and performest such wonders ; teach me how I too may do them, and attain to thy estate. The rule of continuous instruction prevails everywhere in the World-process, 'I teach thee, thou another, that other a third,' etc. ; and a hymn is intended only to elicit such instruction ; it does not create any new and real separateness in the Great Unity. Thus, then, hymns are also means to the true knowledge, for so long as one's desires, one's needs, are not expressed to another they cannot be fulfilled and satisfied by that other. Such fulfilment indeed is a conjunction, a union ; and giving information to another is also a conjunction with him, a union in consciousness. Strictly, indeed, a desire is a desire only so long as it remains uncommunicated to another. (As soon as it is mentioned to another it may be said to

have become partly fulfilled, to have passed into the stage of action, to have lost its character of pure desire). When the desire embodies a very great and urgent need or necessity, then steps are taken at the very earliest opportunity to communicate it to another, and seek from him the satisfaction thereof. Such is the principle of the relation between the teacher and the pupil. The latter says to the former: Thou knowest more than I do; I want this knowledge; teach it to me. And the former complies.

Endless sub-divisions of kinds of hymns are made by differences of time, space, and motion. In some, only the greatness of the ideal is dwelt upon; in others, only the littleness of the singer; in a third kind, both, and so on.

Thus is the ultimate purpose of the hymn also to lead up to the final knowledge of the Brahman-state, the realisation of the Supreme *Shakṭi* of whom the gods have sung :

O *Devī* ! Thou that in Thyself unitest
 The might of each and all the gathered Gods !
 That from the fount of Self this universe
 Outpourest ! *Ambikā* ! our little Mother !
 We bow to Thee in reverence and love.
 O Thou ! whose might, matchless and measure-
 less,
 Ananta, *Brahmā*, or e'en Hara's self,
 May not in speech encompass, *Chandikā* !
 Do thou protect us from all evil fears.

Thou art the affluence of the virtuous home,
 Thou the dire want that blasts th' abode of sin,
 Thou art the good man's simple-hearted faith,
 Thou art the modesty of those well-born,
 Thou art th' intelligence beneath whose gaze
 The heart of every science lies unbared.
 Thou art the Sacred Script where lie enshrined
 The stainless words of Ṛk, the holy hymns
 Of Yajus̥h and the music of the Sāma,
 Thou art the Vidyā whom the sinless ones,
 The sages who have seen the truth of sense
 And sense's object, serve unceasingly,
 Thou art the wisdom in the hearts of those
 That have achieved the vision of the Self—
 We bow to Thee, again, guard Thou the
 worlds.¹

¹ These verses are to be found in the extant *Purgā-sap̥ta-shaṭī*.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER VIII.

THE AṬHARVA-VEĀDA.

The *Aṭharva* as the summation of the other three *Veḍas*.—The partless unity of the Whole appearing as uniformity amidst endless variation and detail of parts.—The realisation of non-separateness the one final goal.—The contents of the *Aṭharva*.—Endless successions.—The significance of *saṭ* and *asaṭ*.—Why *saṭ* corresponds with *kriyā*, *ānanda* with *ichchhā*, and *chit* with cognition.—The explanation of the symbology connected with *Shiva*.—*Saṭ-chiṭ-ānanda* and the nerve currents of *iḍā-piṅgalā-suṣhumnā*.—Reproduction of trinity in each.—Endless permutations.—Further contents of the *Aṭharva*.

The fourth *Veḍa* is the *Aṭharva*, and its place as the fourth notifies us of its character; it is the summation of the preceding three. In the summation we find at once the seeds which expand into the three, and the expression of their fundamental unity. In the *Aṭharva* the World-process is seen as a whole, as a method, rather than as expressed in its separate characteristics. Its *Mahā-vākya* is therefore that which sums up in a single phrase the whole World-

process—I-this-Not. It expounds the Self, the Not-Self, and the nexus between them, the Negation which implies a previous affirmation; it contains the workings of all activity, the marks of all knowledge, the repletion of all desire, the whole of life, the whole of *Brahma-vidyā*, the inmost science of the Whole. To know the *Aṭharva* is to know the essence of the World-process, and the essence of the activity of the atom, the junctions, disjunctions, interjunctions and conjunctions which make up that World-process. The *Rk*, telling of cognition, the *Yajuh*, of action, the *Sāma*, of desire, are but parts of this, which sums them up in one great generalisation. As the *Rk* is reflected in all *Mantras*, the *Yajuh* in all *Brāhmaṇas*, the *Sāma* in all *Upaniṣads*, so is the *Aṭharva* reflected in the *Tantra*, the great science, by which worlds are built.

While, in the Whole, everything is compacted in one partless consciousness and everything is equal and simultaneous, in the sequence of the parts of the World-process is seen the succession of cognition, desire and action, all again reaching unity in the summation. As say some ancient shlokas:

All living things have knowledge, though their avenues of knowledge vary; some are blind by day and some by night, and some can see alike in both; all animals, all birds and

beasts, have knowledge, and the knowledge of men is similar to theirs; so is their knowledge also similar to that of men; and similar also are human ways to theirs.¹

Such statements indicate the essential unity, the equality, the in-difference, in nature, of all knowledge and all activity. The one goal of all beings is knowledge—of the One and All. Yet this is realised in ever different places and ever different cycles, for in these differences consists the nature of the World-process, and blindness and vision, day and night, have larger meanings in larger cycles, for large and small repeat each other.² Some *jīvas* 'see by night' being blind in the day of manifestation, and learning to see by passing through the night of *pralaya*. Others are 'blind by night' not gaining knowledge even after passing through *pralaya*; for such pass fruitless many creations and many dissolutions, and numerous are such *jīvas*. Yet is the quest the same, and the goal is reached by all.³

¹These verses occur in the current *Durgā-saptashatī*.

²"As above so below," "As the small so the large," "History repeats itself," "There is nothing new under the sun," etc.

³This important statement has a direct bearing on the burning question as to whether *jīvas* make progress when incarnate. The text seems to imply

That separateness is pain and unity peace, that all is AUM, this is the essence of all sacred teaching; this, this alone, is Truth. To be liberated is to conquer separateness, for Samsāra arises from cognition, desire and action separated,¹ in endless permutations and combinations; this is the knowledge of all knowledges.

The *Atharva Veda*, as the summation, instructs us in the principles which equally underlie the methods of the World-process and of the atom-process—a world in miniature. Whether 'World-process' or 'atom-process'—depends on the speaker and his point of view. As every mantra of this *Veda* reflects the operations of the World-process, so does it reveal to us cognition within cognition, memory within memory, power within power, world within world, fact within fact, action within action, duty within duty, sin within sin, individuality within individuality, ascending and descending from every point in space, endlessly, ceaselessly. (Atoms make up molecules, molecules compounds, compounds cells, cells

what has been elsewhere taught that "we must work while it is day, the night cometh when no man can work". (John, ix. 4) (E. H. B.)

¹ When equality is restored between wish and thought and deed, when wish is no longer father to thought, but the two are mere aspects of a unity, peace is reached. (E. H. B.) गुणानाम् समता लब्धः ।

tissues, tissues organs, organs bodies, bodies communities; communities classes and races; classes and races kingdoms; kingdoms of many grades and varied linkings make up a planet, planets make up a solar system, solar systems a vaster system, and so on, unending; nowhere is found simplicity indivisible; nowhere complexity final. All is relative.)¹

The World-process is not one succession but many, everywhere beginnings, everywhere endings, each beginning the ending of an old order, each ending the beginning of a new one. The successions in the Logion give the successions in the World-process. I-Not-This is cognition-desire-action; Not-This-I is desire-action-cognition; I-this-Not is cognition-action-desire. The activities of Brahmā, Shiva, Viṣṇu, have herein their record, with the summation in Mahā-Viṣṇu, wherein their separation vanishes. Saṭ, chit and ānanda, inseparate and yet in succession, are in their unity Brahman,

¹ Western science is endorsing this ancient teaching in the most complete fashion. The atom is now spoken of as a complex body, resembling a solar system; the 'little' as revealed by the microscope is as infinite as the 'great' revealed by the telescope; the limit of knowledge in both cases is the strength of the lens not the bankruptcy of nature. Science would justify us in seeing in the atom a solar system, and in this planets, and in the planets communities and so on, down to the minuter atom again. (A. B.)

and yet, since inseparate, any one of them may be said to be Brahman, as in various *Veda*-texts. In succession, saṭ is kriyā, and Brah-mā, the creator; chiṭ is jñāna, and Viṣṇu, the preserver; ānanda is ichchhā, and Shiva, the dissolver into peace. In saṭ, asaṭ is included, for although it be true that only that is defined to be saṭ, which is not limited by time, nor space, nor substance, such a definition cannot arise without the recognition of time and space and substance by the definer, and hence without the recognition of asaṭ. The unlimited is that which cannot be defined or measured by, or in, time, space and substance; it is that the beginning or ending of which is inconceivable. Yet can it only be recognised in innumerable be-ings, within numberless beginnings and endings, which in endless multiplicity strive to mirror unity. We cannot point to a 'this' and say, 'This, in this place, is saṭ, being.' (Neither can we say, 'This is asaṭ,' for saṭ is there, making possible the manifestation.) Because we cannot say 'This is saṭ,' wholly (nor 'This is asaṭ,' wholly) therefore is the Samsāra, the World-process, called miṭhyā, mythical, false; that which is neither existent nor non-existent, but both, is false, and hence the World-process itself is false, illusive. The *Nyāya* declares: The very nature of the world is existence and non-existence, the World-

process consisting in this verily. So also the *Brahma-Sūtra* speaks of 'the *saḍasaṭ*, the many, or the false,' these terms being synonymous. *Asaṭ* means 'not-being,' 'no-thing,' and signifies space and time, the two illusions and creators of illusions. To be connected with space and time is to be *asaṭ*, non-existent, unreal; yet inasmuch as *asaṭ* appears, therefore it always includes an element of *saṭ* also. For the World-process being *saḍasaṭ*, and being made up of space, time and substance, and space and time being *asaṭ*, the third element in the World-process, *vaṣṭu*, substance, must be (that which corresponds to) *saṭ*. These three make up the 'procession'. Hence *saṭ* is connected with action, active or actual process being impossible without substance, without which space and time were mere emptinesses.¹

¹ The following triplets are frequently met with : time-space-motion, time-space-causality, time-space-substance. Eliminating the two common factors, it would appear that motion, causality and substance correspond with each other. And in a sense they do so ; causation is the work of force or energy which is desire ; and substantiality is, in one aspect, the power of self-maintenance and other-resistance (which characterises *Saṭṭā*, see p. 12 *supra*), and it manifests by vibration or motion etc. But this would make substance correspond with desire. Here however the aspect of motion or action is emphasised. Again, elsewhere, time is said to correspond with desire, *Kāla*,

Saṭ thus corresponds with *kriyā*, presided over by *Brahmā*. *Chit*, or *chaitanya*, similarly corresponds with *jñāna*, presided over by *Viṣṇu*, and *ānanda* belongs to *Shiva*, the lord of *ichchhā*, full of all bliss, self-willed, turned inwards away from all outer things, and the cause of the dissolution of all things into the Self. Hence does the hymn sing of *Shiva* :

I bow to him, who sleeps within all beings :

I bow to him, who re-absorbeth all ;

Three-eyed, five-faced, bedecked with linked skulls,

Wreathed round with serpents, lord of *Pārvaṭī*.

I bow to him, the source of all the worlds.

Ichchhā, desire, is hid in all things, hence is *Shiva* said to sleep in all beings. He re-absorbs all, as well as is the source of all, because of his nature, the Negation—the Negation which first affirms and then denies, *ichchhā* first coveting with greed and then rejecting with satiety. He is called the Three-eyed because he protects and carries out the triple Negation, triple because covering cognition, desire and action, and again because the Negation is not only itself, but is ever inseparably connected during the World-process with the *Aham* and the *Eṭaṭ*. For this reason also is *Shivā*, the feminine

Shiva etc. We can reconcile these apparent differences as the result of differences of point of view.

aspect of Shiva, said to be *ṭri-guṇā*, possessed of three attributes. There is no World-process possible without this trinity; if there were no *Aham* and no *Eṭaṭ* the Negation could not apply to anything, and in their mutual annihilation the Negation vanishes.

Aham is the right eye of Shiva; *Eṭaṭ* the left; the third eye above both is *Na*. By this third, *Aham* and *Eṭaṭ* are destroyed, and hence comes the tradition that the third eye of Shiva is and causes *pralaya*. In the Logion also the *Na* is placed after the *Aham* and the *Eṭaṭ*, and in the written symbol of the *Prāṇava* ॐ, it is the dot placed above the *A* and *U*.

The 'five-faced' Shiva has a similar interpretation. In the creative thought, 'I am This—I am Brahman taking form,' the *Aham* is one aspect; the desire to create is the second; the shining forth is the third; the performance of actions is the fourth; the result of the actions is the fifth. So in the destructive thought, 'I am not This,' *i.e.*, 'I will destroy this,' the faces are: the *Aham*; the consideration of the nexus between the *Aham* and the *Eṭaṭ*; the desire to disunite the two; the breaking of the link and the consequent disappearance of the *Eṭaṭ*; and, lastly, the disappearance also of the *Aham*. Yet again may the faces be translated as *jñāna*, *ichchhā*, *kriyā*, and *samāhāra*, and their destruction.

The string of skulls, emblem of those changes which are summed up in death, signifies the pralaya-nature.

The wreath of serpents indicates the regulation of time-cycles. Everywhere the World-process proceeds by time-cycles, and the time of pralaya, the Negation, is called vyāla, a serpent.

Again Mundā is the aspect of Māyā which destroys all things, and hence the name of Shiva as "the lord of Chāmundā."

Hence, finally, by the destruction of all limitations and distinctions, the destruction of all separate things, is Shiva identified with ānanda, bliss, which is the absence of all separateness.

Time is triple, following the M, the A and the U. The first, of the nature of M, is the bringer of pralaya, and is called vyāla. These vyālas are represented by the sacred thread, the wrist-chaplets, the ear-rings, and the other ornaments of Shiva, and these ornaments, again, indicate the actions or functions(?).¹ The wrath, the disintegrating energy, necessary for the work of destruction, for the bringing about of pralaya, is the hālāhala, the deadly poison. When the ocean of Brahman is churned, of the gems that come forth, Viṣṇu takes those

¹ In allegory, serpents usually signify spiral currents of energies, vital forces, and also time-cycles.

that are of the nature of A h a m ; those of the nature of E ṭ a ṭ are claimed by Brahmā ; that of the nature of Na, the h ā l ā h a l a, is finally taken by Shiva, who by drinking it, declares his readiness for the bringing about of p r a l a y a.

Many expressions scattered in the descriptions of Shiva are to be explained in similar fashion ; the epithet Chandra-shekara, the moon-crested, means he who delights, c h a n ḍ a ṭ e, or illuminates all. And so explanations may be given of other symbols, such as : the a g h o r a - m a n ṭ r a s, each issuing from one of the five mouths ; the b h a s m a or purifying ashes ; the destruction of Kāma, Cupid ; the effacement of the scroll of Destiny ; the v i b h ū ṭ i or sovereign powers, also ashes ; the peak of Kailāsa ; the m ṛ g a - c h a r m a, or deer-skin ; the m ā ṭ a ṅ g a - c h a r m a, or elephant-skin ; the retinue of daimons ; the ṭ r i s h ū l a, or trident ; the epithet Nata-rāja-rāja, the king of dancers ; the double-headed drum, etc. In connexion with Viṣṇu, the four arms, the conch, the discus, etc., have been already explained. The lotus-seat of Brahmā is also significant ; he is the basis, Dhātā, and has also the names of Viḍyā, Mahat, Buddhi, etc.¹

S a ṭ - c h i ṭ - ā n a ṇ ḍ a is the summation into one of action, cognition and desire. The reason of this order is as follows. Kriyā, action, is all

¹ Here regarded as the *active* sub-aspect of intelligence.

praṭyakṣha, sense-cognisable; praṭyakṣha, sense-cognition, comes first. Vichāra, thought-inference, is based on and follows after that; on beholding action, the thought arises that there must be some one who is the manifestor, the regulator, of this activity; this thought is bodha, awareness, which is chit. Finally comes the question; what is the connexion between these two, by what force do these two, sat and chit, hold together? As answer, there becomes manifest ichchhā, of the nature of ānanda. But in truth there is no invariable order, since in the One all is simultaneous, and in succession any may be first or second or third. Only the conjoint triune AUM is universal, and the permutations of its factors, A, U, and M, vary in different universes, albeit for our universe the order is that of the Logion, Aham—Eṭaṭ—Na. Hence even here, at certain times or places, the beginning may be action, or cognition, or desire, for at each point is a beginning and an ending, an effect and a cause, and each is either, according to the relations under review. The Sat-chit-ānanda, the triune, is present in every atom, and according to the function required one or other manifests predominantly, while all is Brahman. This tri-unity of Sat-chit-ānanda is the all-auspicious Trikuṭī, the true Trivenī. For Gaṅgā, who bringeth mukṭi, is the Shakti,

the Necessity, flowing forth from the Tri-unity ; while the separate *śhakṭis* are Gaṅgā, Yamunā and Sarasvatī, corresponding¹ to *saṭ*, *chit*, *ānanda*, and also to the three *nāḍīs*—(spinal nerves and vital currents in the body) *idā*, *piṅgalā* and *sūṣhumnā*. Each of the several manifestations, Viṣṇu, Shiva and Brahmā, is at times indifferently called *saṭ*, *chit*, or *ānanda*, because all three are present in each atom.

On this same principle, *kriyā*, action, motion, involves the idea of space, in which actions begin and end ; and space thus involves time ; and time involves both motion and space. Thus all involves all. That one attribute is assigned to one, and another to another—as, *saṭ* is Brahmā, *chit* Viṣṇu, *ānanda* Shiva—is due simply to the predominance of one attribute at a special time and in a special space and a special individual.

It is important to note that the trinity reappears in each of its members. Thus in *saṭ*, the *a* is the immortal (the creator), the *s* the mortal (the destroyer), while the *ṭ* (Viṣṇu) protects. In *chit*, the *i* is the Aham-*śhakṭi*, the power of the Self, (Viṣṇu) ; the *ch* is that which moves, *i.e.*, the *samsāra*, the world, (and Brahmā) ; and the *ṭ* is that which con-

¹ Whether respectively, in the order given, or otherwise, the text does not make clear.

sumes¹ (Shiva). In ānandam, the *a* is the Aṭmā, together with the Anāṭmā, (Brahmā); the *nan* is the cognition or the conjunction of Anāṭmā and Āṭmā (Viṣṇu); the *dam* is that which bestows all, necessity, desire, (Shiva).

The knowledge of the permutations and combinations of these is the end and aim of all śāstras, of all teachings, and the practice thereof, the actual formation of spaces, times and movements corresponding therewith, is the practice of the true Sanātana Vaidika Dharma, the Ancient Religion of Knowledge, is the performance of all yajñas, is the attainment of the nature of Brahman.

The *Aṭharva Veda* expounds these permutations and their summation as saṭ-chiḍ-ānanda. Thus there may be: ānanda, chiṭ, saṭ; saṭ, ānanda, chiṭ; saṭ, chiṭ, ānanda; ānanda, saṭ, chiṭ; and so on. Brahman is not saṭ alone, nor chiṭ alone, nor ānanda alone. It is all three at once, as conjoined in the AUM.

So also are the other three *Vedas* summed up in the *Aṭharva*, and when this has been mastered, they are seen to be subject to similar

¹ Change of situation may explain change of function; like the change of appearance of an object with change of standpoint of observer, so often referred to. An army is a 'destroyer' to the enemy, a 'preserver' to its own nation.

permutations of order. The permutations of their logia are likewise shown in the *Aṭharva*. The expansion and coming forth of all the processes of the world, the origination of one from another, the combination of diversity and unity and the results thereof, the interdependence of all things, the co-ordination of all things into unity, the causes which lead to the distinction between things to be avoided and to be accepted, and the tracing of all kinds of kriyās through all these operations and processes in the world—all this is expounded in the *Aṭharva Veḍa*. What enterprise remains to be undertaken after the acquirement of the knowledge of the Self, the Not-self, and Desire—this also is explained in the *Aṭharva*, as are also the many manifestations and functions of Brahmā, Shiva and Viṣṇu, their endless operations, the experiencing of cognition, desire and action, the functioning of Shakti, etc.; in short, the details of the expanding and evolution of the universe. Here, too, we learn of the gradual transformation of atoms into ākāsha, of ākāsha into vāyu, of vāyu into agni, of agni into āpas, and finally of āpas into pṛthivi, and also of the reverse process at pralaya. Here, also, of the connexion between the hierarchies and their powers and corresponding works, times, spaces and numbers.

Such is the *Aṭharva-Vidyā* yet, in the study of details, must never be forgotten that the *Ātmā* is ever untrammelled by and ever free from all such limitations.

SECTION III. (*Continued.*)

CHAPTER IX.

THE BRĀHMAṆAS.

The reasons for the name *Brāhmaṇa*, common to a portion of the scriptures and to a caste.—The general nature and scheme of the contents and the authorship of the *Brāhmaṇas*.—The mystery of being, the endlessness of details, and their synthesis and unification in the scriptures.—The relation of the various parts of the scriptures, as principle and concrete detail, aphorism and commentary.—The *Brāhmaṇas* of the *Rg-Veḍa*.—Those of the *Yajuh*.—Those of the *Sūma*.—Those of the *Aṭharva*.—Opening root-sentences of each of the four.—Recapitulation.—The significance of hymns and prayers.—The allegory of Mahā-Viṣṇu sleeping in the ocean of milk.

The *Mahā-vākya* is the seed-thought; the *Veḍas* are the expansion and development of that seed; and the *Brāhmaṇas* are the further expansion of the *Veḍas*, that is to say, of the *Samhitā* proper. There are four *Brāhmaṇas* to each *Veḍa*, corresponding severally with cognition, desire, action and the summation.

It is true that the word *Brāhmaṇa* is applied to a caste. It is applied to this part of scripture

also for the same etymological reasons. He who knows Brahman is a brāhmaṇa; that which imparts the knowledge of Brahman, reveals it and makes it known, is also *Brāhmaṇa*.

Further details of the four factors of the World-process, cognition, etc., are expounded in these *Brāhmaṇas*. The four sub-hierarchs of Viṣṇu write the jñāna-portions; the four sub-hierarchs of Brahmā, the kriyā-portions; and those of Shiva the ichchhā-portions. The summation-portions are also similarly dealt with by four sub-hierarchs, niyāmakas. These divisions within divisions arise in consequence of the endless variations, modifications and correlations which each factor undergoes; and separate office-bearers have to be deputed to deal with each main type of work arising out of these variations. It is admitted on all hands that a whole world-system exists in each atom, that in every world-system again are innumerable atoms, and that every atom performs such an incalculable number of movements that those of even a single day cannot be accurately counted by the whole science of *Jyotiṣha*. The result is that only the general principles of the co-ordination of all the multifarious things of the World-process can be mastered, even with the help of these many *Brāhmaṇas*; and this is the whole fruit of knowledge.

Therefore is it that to know the Unity is to become Brahman. Otherwise indeed the world is endless and beyond the knowledge of any. As is written :

The knower knoweth not ; who doth not know
He only knoweth, knoweth he the all.

Ask not of others, look within Thyself.

Such is the mystery of Being, such the wonder of the world. Thou thyself art all. Dost thou not recognise thyself within thyself ? Art thou, or art thou not ? Dost thou know or dost thou not know ? Dost thou act or dost thou not act ? If thou knowest not thine own work, is it not wonderful that thou shouldst seek to know the world ? That which to thee seems marvellous is only that which does not enter into thy intelligence, either because of the narrowness of that intelligence, or from inattention, or lack of relevant and careful consideration. In truth, there is naught marvellous ; for everywhere, everything exists.

Hence the teaching, to be heedfully grasped and followed : attend first to thy duty to wife and children ; then, to thy duty to thy country, the larger home ; and then, to thy duty to the whole earth ; then, to thy duty to the world-system, the brahmāṇḍa. Thus, stage by stage, will the unity of the whole be realised. And as there are many stages in the life-work of a man, so may it be inferred that

there are likewise many in the life-work of Mahā-Viṣṇu. What is in the root, that only appears in the branch. The highest truth, the law according to which the worlds are created, that same law manifests in every atom. To that law, smallness and greatness are both alike, or may even be said not to exist, for that which is manifest in the small, that only is manifest in the great, and *vice versa*. The knowledge of the truth is not necessarily attained by the study of only the so-called large or great. It is attained equally by the full and free study of a single atom.

And, indeed, thus only can all sciences, all teachings, be saved from futility. There is no knowledge worthy of the name until all sciences, all teachings, can be deduced from and applied to a single atom. In the absence of such insight and comprehensive grasp, to say 'I have learnt this,' 'I have learnt that,' is mere vanity. This co-ordination, synthesis, unification, equality or sameness of all should be realised by the study of the atom, and then—for the elimination of all suspicion of separateness and the establishment of a complete co-ordination in detail—all the sciences, all the *śāstras*, should be studied.

Thus, then, in their respective lines of succession and official gradation, in the department of work of each, Mahā-Viṣṇu, Viṣṇu, Brahmā and Shiva, and of Shakti, the consort or

energy, of each also, there are four chief subordinates and four main laws of cognition etc., worked by them. This quaternary (of office-bearers or sub-hierarchs, or laws of nature, or modes of life and consciousness) manifests throughout the world. And under each of these again are other four, and under them still others and so on endlessly.¹ This endlessness is

¹A familiar illustration may bring these statements home to the reader and justify at the same time the law of analogy, 'as above so below,' 'as the small so the great'. Roughly, the life of a nation may be divided into (a) educational, (b) industrial, (c) administrative, which binds the other two together, and (d) 'policy,' 'government,' 'national life' as a whole in an all-comprehensive sense, corresponding respectively to cognition, action, desire and summation. 'The welfare of the nation' is the root-principle, the watchword, the motto, the 'logion,' which sums up its whole life. The expansion of this logion is the statute-book which governs in more detail the departments above-mentioned. But under each of these we may discern others. Under (a) educational, we may note the further division of (i) Tutorial and professorial function, literary and scientific research, or educational work proper, (ii) ecclesiastical, theological, religious, philosophical and literary activity and ministration, (iii) inspectorial, supervisory or disciplinary work which connects the other two and makes their working possible, and (iv) 'Pedagogics,' dealing with educational

the endlessness of the ways of individual manifestation, whereas Unity constantly resides unbroken in the Necessity of the Three-in-One. For necessity is ever one, unique, partless, non-comparative, ungraded and ungradable. If a thing is necessary, no question arises of its being

policy, the bearing on the national life of the growth of knowledge of this and the other world—again corresponding to cognition, action, desire and summation. Under (b) industrial, we have (i) scientific knowledge and art, (ii) factories, trades, industries, commerce and all appliances for travel, (iii) the organisation of labor and capital which makes the utilisation of (i) for (ii) possible, and (iv) economics as a whole. Under (c) we have (i) the financial, (ii) the civil, and (iii) the military, or force proper, which makes the two others possible, and (iv) office and legislation generally. Under (d) we may distinguish (i) the science and scheme of government, politics in the widest sense, (ii) the functions of the ruler, whether monarchical, parliamentary or republican, (iii) the sovereign will, and finally (iv) the national organisation as a whole.

Each of these sub-divisions again has its own (1) bye-laws, rules etc., (2) the applications or workings out of those rules and bye-laws, (3) disciplinary or police provisions which make the other two possible, and (4) the scheme rationalising the whole. The illustration may be worked out to an indefinite length. Thus (c.iii) military, may be sub-divided into (1) the science and art of offensive and defensive con-

small or great ; it is simply indispensable. When we say of a thing that it is more necessary and of another that it is less necessary, what we mean really is that in the particular circumstances only the one is truly and indispensably necessary, and that the other can be dispensed

structions, forts, men-of-war, weapons, the theories of tactics, strategy, manœuvres, drill and discipline etc., (2) actual defence and offence operations, (3) the commissariat and (4) general domestic and foreign military policy. And any one of these, say the commissariat, may again be broken up into (1) the theory of the hygiene, sanitation and housing and harboring of armies and navies, (2) actual supply of requirements, food, clothes, ammunition, stores in general, (3) discipline and policing, and (4) the war department as a whole. Or take (a.i) educational ; here, say, in the department of the microscopist out of innumerable possible lines of study and research, we may distinguish (1) the finding of the specimen, showing desire, (2) the preparation of it by multifarious processes, mechanical and chemical, section-cutting with microtoms, immersion in various solutions, affixing to glass-slides etc., all showing activity, (3) the observation and examination, corresponding to cognition, and (4) the publication of the results. And so on. A little careful consideration will show how cognition, desire, action and summation are always interlacing in endless complication, so that each in every manifestation involves corresponding manifestations of the other two.

with and is therefore not necessary in truth. But from the universal standpoint all and each is equally necessary, for it is all equally present in the I-This-Not, and there is no more reason for any one than for any other in the view of the Whole.

Accepting this absence of finality, a n a v a s-
t̥hā, 'no-stopping-short, no-standing-still,' as
prevailing everywhere, the *Veḍas* and all sub-
servient sciences endeavour to co-ordinate this
endless multiplicity of the World-process into a
unity. Otherwise, that is to say, if we did not
recognise such an endlessness of particulars,
and insisted on a mere unity, then no speech
at all would be possible; in fact there would be
no distinction of knower, knowledge and known,
and much less of speaker, speech and spoken
about. Speech, the *Veḍas*, are made possible
by the fact of the existence of these endless

Finally books embodying *knowledge* may be and
are written on any and every one of these heads and
sub-heads and by appropriate *workers*; and even so
are we to understand the compilation of the various
parts of Scripture. It may be objected that these
divisions and sub-divisions often appear artificial;
but this is support instead of refutation. When
everything is inextricably mixed up with other
things, no hard and fast division is possible. Do not
regard these divisions as hard and fast and their
artificiality disappears.

particulars; and, therefore, the actuality of these particulars is proved by the possibility of speaking about them. For to impose even the possibility of 'becoming' on what does not really 'become' at some time or other is not right. In the contrary case, it is right and proper to speak of those things as possible (at one time) which do actually 'become' (at some other time).¹ Now the possibility of all things what-

¹ In this argument we may discern the metaphysical reason of the statement in the footnote at page 282 of vol. i of *The Secret Doctrine* that nothing can possibly come into any human consciousness, however weird, fanciful, monstrous, the conception may be, which does not actually exist in the world in some plane of matter or other. And when we further realise that every such conception is itself a 'formulation' a picturing, a copy, in matter of the mental or astral plane, the argument becomes clearer. Herein also we see what element of truth there is in the view of those philosophers who make conceivability a test of truth; also, in the view that every idea or opinion, however erroneous-seeming, which has entered into any human consciousness at all, must because of that fact have some element of truth in it, otherwise it could not have appeared in that consciousness—a view, which, if held more commonly, would bring about the amicable settlement of many controversies that now seem hopeless of adjustment. The analogy between the small human author of a little story and the divine author

soever is implied in the triad of the Self, the Not-Self and the Not-Not-Self, that is to say, in the affirmation of the I, its denial, and the denial of that denial; and we accordingly find that all these bhāvas, possibilities, 'becomings,' which are so implied in these three are actually manifested and are also described in the *Veḍas*, etc., by Mahā Viṣṇu, Viṣṇu, Brahmā, Shiva, Shakti, etc.

In this description, as indicated before, the root and essence of the whole World-process naturally comes first, and that is the transcendental fact indicated by the *Praṇava*. Then of a great world-drama is very close. See *Bhagavad-Gītā*, ii. 16, Vyāsa's *Yoga-Bhāṣhya*, iii. 14, and *The Science of Peace*, p. 123. In most of the Purāṇas, the 'universal' facts, materials or contents of the World-process are described in the terms of *Sāṅkhya*, and are designated as अबुद्धिपूर्वःसर्गोऽयम्, the 'automatic or mechanical' evolution, that is to say dependent only on the All-consciousness, and independent of the consciousness of any particular individual Īshvara, whose particular world-system, world-egg, brahmāṇḍa, becomes his बुद्धिपूर्वःसर्गः conscious or deliberate formation.

As the Arabian doctors taught, all that is conceivable already is, in the All, whether or not it be in manifestation at any time and place. That which is not always existent, has no possible nor conceivable existence, cannot be imagined or

comes the subtle seed-ideation of Mahā-Viṣṇu embodied in the *Gāyatrī* and the *Mahā-vākyas*. Thereafter we have, as embodied in the *Veḍas*, the expansion of that ideation, still in the way of universal principles, by the ideations of Viṣṇu, Brahmā and Shiva, in pursuance of the instructions of Mahā-Viṣṇu. Then follow the varieties of prakāra, method, law, that is to say, a further descent into details; and these are intended to be explained by the sixteen *Brāhmaṇas*.

In the first *Brāhmaṇa* of the *Rg-veḍa* is contained the ideation of Viṣṇu relating to jñāna,

thought of. Every conceivable thing exists in eternity, and appears and disappears in time and space, becomes and vanishes; but has always Being. Out of the all any Īshvara chooses the materials, for his system, and within that system there can only appear such of the contents of the All as he has selected for possible manifestation in a particular time and place, his amsha, portion. Thus looked at the 'reason' for the existence of any particular phenomenon—an elephant, an octopus, a gnat, a planet—is exactly the same as the 'reason' for the existence of any other; each one *is*, and it 'becomes' when selected for manifestation by an Īshvara, or, within his selection, by any self-conscious being in his world-system. A genius is only a man who draws more largely than his fellows on the ever-existing store. (A.B.)

cognition or knowledge. 'Viṣṇu instructed his subordinate departmental officers thus: There are four *Brāhmaṇas*, and there are four subdivisions of knowledge too. First, cognition proper, the connecting of everything with or in or by means of knowledge; this is the aham-buddhi, the I-consciousness. Second, cognition within or succeeded by action; the projection of the self into an act. Third, cognition concerned with desire; the consciousness that the I should be known and that the This should also be known; in other words, the 'making' or feeling of desire between the I and the This. Fourth, cognition relating to summation; after having known the I, and felt desire, enter on action; for where else can the desire of the I reside, exist, become manifest, find free play, than in action and cognition; after having known the I, known desire, and known action are the three summed up in life-work.' Because of all this is the work of Viṣṇu and of his sub-hierarchs said to be the work of preservation, *pālana*; the fulfilling of the desire for anything that appears anywhere in the I, as may be necessary, is *pālana*. This is also the reason for the public tradition that Viṣṇu is pervasive of all creatures and ever abides with each. It is true that every *jīva* constantly makes seemingly independent efforts; 'I have done this, not you; I am so-and-so while you are not; I am a chief,

a king, a learned man, an artist, etc.' But all this is the utterance of the illusory consciousness of a h a m-k ā r a, I-ness, individuality, egoism. In reality Viṣṇu is the mover, inspirer and propeller of this jīva, (i.e., of all jīvas within his world-system. 'All this is by the a m s h a, portion, of Viṣṇu,' i.e., all this consciousness of self-effort in jīvas is but participation in the life of Viṣṇu.¹ The work of preservation that takes place in every atom takes place because of his presence there. Viṣṇu first cognises himself: I am the ruler, and rules ought to be made by me. This may be said to be knowledge within knowledge, knowledge about knowledge, cognition inclusive of other cognitions. Having thus ideated, or formulated

¹ This will be clear to the reader when he has mastered the significance of individualities within individualities, cells within tissues, tissues within organs, organs within persons and so on. (See *The Science of Peace*, p. 216.) He will then see that Viṣṇu's consciousness of self-effort, 'initiative,' is also illusory with reference to the consciousness of Mahā-Viṣṇu and so on, endlessly. From the transcendental or p a r a m ā r t h a standpoint the World-process is mechanical, automatic, carried on by one Autos, the One Will of the Universal Self; from the empirical or v y a v a h ā r a standpoint, each of the endless movements of any world-system is initiated by the individual will of some one self or another. Etymologically Viṣṇu means the pervador.

his laws, he cognises the aṇu, the 'small' or the atom: This atom is subordinate to me. Such is the consciousness of the This; it is knowledge as regards the element of action, eṭat; it is active or actional cognition. Thirdly, he cognises the desire of the atom: This atom has such and such a need or necessity. This is knowledge with respect to the element of Negation, desire; it is volitional cognition. Lastly, even when the thought is of the nature of affirmation, 'is,' even then the negation 'is not' is also present; for the question has been 'is it or is it not necessary,' and after having determined this question in the affirmative he satisfies the desire. And this is knowledge with respect to the summation, summative or summational cognition.

We see the same processes in daily human life. Every man first cognises, acquires knowledge about, his work or business, what he wants to do; then about his 'necessary cause' or the necessary means that only will enable him to carry out his work; then of the relation of the things or objects involved in that work with himself, i.e., he finds out how he stands in respect of those things and how or in what way his business will be helped or hindered¹ by them. And so on.

¹ To take a concrete case: I first determine that I would like to go to such and such a place; then I

Knowledge of these various kinds, all the element of cognition, in all its varieties, is thus expounded in the *Brāhmaṇas*. For instance, it is shown there that there is a triplicity in āk āśha, the cognition-element being called chiḍ-āk āśha, the action-element mah ā-k āśha, the desire-element āk āśha proper; the summation being the par-āk āśha.¹ Further, each sub-division has its own corresponding sub-division of the property of sound which belongs to this element, viz., par ā, paśhya nṭī, maḍh-yam ā and vaikharī; more details on which subject are to be sought in the science of language. The element of cognition in this triad of āk āśhas and their summation, what the use or purpose and application of cognition is in this aspect of āk āśha, by what law it is cognition—all this is determined and made clear by the *Rg-Veda-Brāhmaṇa*. The other elements, two

find out whether road, rail, ship or other is the best means; then, what things will be requisite or useful on the journey; then I take into consideration the whole of these and, if everything is satisfactory, I decide to entertain the wish and finally proceed to carry it out.

¹ In extant Samskr̥t literature, many of the so-called minor Upaniṣhaṭs and also the *Yoga-Vāsiṣṭha* mention different kinds of āk āśha. In some, five kinds are distinguished, and the names vary also.

preceding and four succeeding ākāśha, are similarly treated.

There are seven elements, on the general principle (which, as said before, governs the number of the *Āṅgas* and the *Upāṅgas*) of the sub-division of the triad of cognition, etc., by two. These two elements, mahat and buddhi, that are not commonly known, are matter of yoga, not for daily life, and are dealt with in the *Vedas* only for the use of those who have to carry on the processes of the world by means of archetypes, samśāra-rūpa-taṭṭva (?). The cognitive element in each of these, in its subtle as well as gross aspects is described in the *Brāhmaṇa*: What is the work of chiḍ-ākāśha in the element of vāyu, what is chiḍ-vāyu, what is the relation between the three vāyus, what effects are produced on or in tejās by chiḍ-vāyu and chiḍ-ākāśha, what is chiṭ tejās, what is the relation between its three sub-divisions, and so on with regard to the other successive elements.

There are similarly four *Brāhmaṇas* in the *Yajur-veda* dealing with the factor of kriyā or action.

Brahmā plans out all action and instructs his subordinate hierarchs therein thus: 'The first sub-division of action is that which bases on cognition; the second is devoted to desire; the

third is action proper ; and the fourth is of the nature of summation. All the office-bearers of our department of work are followers of Viṣṇu ; you should obtain the necessary knowledge from him or his department and carry out your actions accordingly'. And the sub-hierarchs of Brahmā obtain their information from the sub-hierarchs of Viṣṇu of the corresponding grades, even as in daily human life people establish relationships with their equals in respect of knowledge, activity, wishes and inclinations, and condition in life as a whole.'

The first sub-division or cognitional action is the recognition of oneself as an actor ; this is the element of Viṣṇu, mere cognition ; also the cognition of the truth about the performance and the instruments of performance of action, *viz.*, such and such are the methods and such the successive steps of the performance of such an action, such the rules and conditions under which the action can be undertaken and the methods followed, etc. ; all this is action in the aspect of cognition. Then, in the second place, we have the desire-aspect of action, 'I have obtained knowledge of the matter, I should now take

¹ Compare the significance of modern administrative terms and things corresponding to these terms: 'bureau of information', 'despatching office,' 'weeding department', 'public works department,' etc.

action'; this is the activity of desire, desire-action. Thirdly, there is the action proper, the active conduct after feeling the desire and ascertaining the necessity for the action. In the action, again, all these are summed up, and so we have the fourth aspect, that of summation. Actual action, action proper, stands between the desire and the summation and implies the latter, that is to say, all four aspects, thus: 'I am Brahman, the actor; this is the present need or necessity; to fulfil it I do this; this is done by me'.

All this is taught in the *Brāhmaṇa* of the *Yajur-veḍa*. And therein are also described and set forth the actional sub-divisions of the mahat and buddhi elements, and of ākāsha, viz., the mahākāsha, and also of the other elements, and their respective functions, their mutual relations, their fields of activity, and the results produced by that activity in gross and subtle aspects, with all their permutations and combinations.

The four sub-divisions of desire should be studied in the *Brāhmaṇa* of the *Sāma-veḍa*. (1) The desire to know; whence (2) the desire to possess; thereafter (3) the desire to secure possession, i. e., to take the necessary steps, the action, that will bring possession; and finally (4) the attainment—these respectively are the four

sub-divisions, cognitive-desire, desire-proper, active-desire and summation-desire.

The ruler of desire is Shiva and his instruction to his sub-hierarchs takes this shape: Behold, our work is the work of destruction. The order and the way thereof are these. This should be destroyed first, this afterwards; and such and such work of the nature of negation should be performed. First, make enquiry, entertain the 'desire to know,' and thoroughly and fully understand the nature of the I and the This. Then entertain the desire to possess, 'I shall obtain the This and the I'. Having obtained them, you will pass on to the Negation, to the declaration, 'no (I want them no more)'. In the Negation is the summation, *sam-ā-hāra*, 'bringing all together' and it is the *sam-hāra* also, the 'taking all in,' re-absorption, destruction.

All these sub-divisions should be studied in the subtle and the gross, (the psychical or subjective and the material or objective aspects), with reference to the desire-sub-divisions of the various root-elements, as in the case of the cognitional and actional sub-divisions thereof.

After all these have been learnt (and study of them completed and experience exhausted, for the time being,) the Negation is entered upon. *Pralaya* begins with the desire-sub-division of

pṛṭhivī and all the others are destroyed successively in order. This process is universal and may be observed in each atom, viz., first the working of desire qualified by knowledge, then attainment, then destruction.¹ Psychologically, contempt, insult, disrespect, hostility, altercation, detraction, slander, anger, etc., (the negative or destructive sides of the emotional life), are all included in desire.

All these matters are made plain in the *Brāhmaṇa* of the *Sāma-Veḍa*.

Finally we have the same four sub-divisions under the summation, and with respect to them Mahā-Viṣṇu instructs his sub-hierarchs :² 'First

¹ Cf. anabolism, optimum, and katabolism, all included in metabolism.

² One would have thought that the sub-hierarchs of Mahā-Viṣṇu were only Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Shiva; but it seems that just as (looking from the vyavahāra or empirical standpoint) consciousness is something more than its three aspects, an organism more than all the organs, so the summation is not merely the simple total of the other three, but something over and above, and the *Aṭharva* not a mere binding together into one volume of the three other *Veḍas* but something which includes them and further explains and schematises them. Accordingly, for the working of the *Aṭharva*, Mahā-Viṣṇu takes a place as it were by the side of the three gods and has separate sub-hierarchs also. See the statements as to the Tetractys, in *The Secret Doctrine*, vol. iii.

comes the securing of knowledge with its four sub-divisions of (a) the wish to know, corresponding with desire, (b) the intimation of this wish to some one else able to fulfil it, corresponding to action, (c) the development within oneself of the necessary qualification, *aḍhikāra*, authority, right, title, for the obtaining of the needed knowledge, corresponding to cognition, and (d) the attainment of the knowledge, corresponding to the summation. Secondly, we have desire with its four sub-divisions of (a) knowledge of the pleasantness of a thing, (b) the desire to obtain it because of the pleasantness, (c) the search for the means of acquisition, and (d) the acquisition. Thirdly, there is action, (a) the desire to do, (b) the desire to find out the means of action, (c) the action and (d) the wish to give up, to cease from action, renunciation.

In the commonest compound, the compound shows attributes unmanifest in its constituent factors. Oxygen and hydrogen yield, as compound, water, and water has properties which are not found in its constituent gases. Nitrogen, most inert of elements, united with chlorine, quiet enough by itself, gives compounds that explode with a tremor, or with the touch of a feather. Innumerable instances might be given to show that a summation is more than its parts, the reason therefor apparently being that the 'organism' is inhabited by a *jīva* of a higher grade in manifestation than those which inhabit the 'organs' which make it up.—A. B.

Finally we have the summation with its (a) wish to know, (b) wish to acquire, (c) wish to act, and (d) the act.

... All these matters, the desire to know, to acquire, to do, to abandon, the doing, the results, one's own condition, the significance of own, another, this, thou, I, which, him, all, if, then, because, therefore, wherefore, from all, mine, thine, his, before, after, earlier, later, etc.—all this should be studied in the *Aṭharva-Veḍa* (*Brāhmaṇa*).

Without the *Brāhmaṇas* it is impossible to understand the *Veḍas*. They have been specially formulated for the separate enunciation of all the main laws of the World-process. And so long as the convergence and divergence, the separate effects as well as the interworking of these laws is not understood, so long will the formation of new worlds remain impossible.

The following are the opening sentences of the four *Brāhmaṇas* of the four *Veḍas* respectively; each is also the root-aphorism which indicates the principal or predominant subject-matter of its *Brāhmaṇa* and also the nature of its connexion with its *Veḍa*.

(a) Aham ṭaṭṭvam aparam.

(b) Prasthitaṃ pūrvāpaṇam kṛtaṃ
akṛtaṃ kāraṇa-karṭṛkaṃ.

(c) Na evam na cha eṭaṭ pratyāśhā
samāḍhyastham cha ananvayam
brahma-taṭṭvam akhilam.

(d) Kriyā-guṇa-dharma-sampatti-
sāḍhana-lakṣhaṇam alakṣhaṇam
cha samāhṛtaṃ.¹

The principle embodied in each of these mūla-vākya-s, root-sentences, governs the rest of the work; and throughout the *Brāhmaṇas* every successive minor or subordinate logion is formulated in genetic consonance with the root-logion, and each word of each such minor logion also conforms to the same rule of consonance.

To recapitulate a little. Mahā-Viṣṇu first obtains or receives the AUM. He ideates it and finds that there is a succession within the successionless, the transcendent. To discover the details of that succession he studies the *Mahā-vedas* which, again, are the ideation of some one else, for the series and succession of

¹ These sentences are wholly unintelligible without commentary, which the *Praṇava-Vāda* does not supply; hence they have been left untranslated. At the time of the dictation of the work, in the hurry of it, I unfortunately omitted (so far as I can now remember) to ask him to supply the needed interpretation from some of the other works which he said he had by heart, e. g., Gobbili's *Tikā* on the *Praṇava-Vāda* itself.

rulers is endless. After having mastered the essence of the *Mahā-vedas* and so become Brahman, he enters on the construction of this samsāra in a series of brahmāṇḍas. For this purpose there arises within him further ideation in accordance with the *Mahā-vedas*. The steps and stages thereof are somewhat as follows: 'In what manner is this possible? It has been made clear to us that the formation of a samsāra is our duty. These are the various ways of doing it. In which one of these ways or orders is it fit for me to engage in this work?' All this deliberation is symbolised as sleeping in the kṣhīra-sāgara, the 'ocean of milk'. The condition of reflectiveness is the 'ocean of milk'. Kṣhīra signifies the stainless. Mahā-Viṣṇu is stainless relatively, by comparison with us. This relativity must never be lost sight of. As has been said before, as an atom of our world-system is to the Mahā-Viṣṇu thereof, so is Mahā-Viṣṇu in turn to a greater being; and as an atom is to our world-system so is that whole world-system to a larger one, so that literally worlds are hidden in atoms and atoms in worlds again endlessly. And even so is the condition of Mahā-Viṣṇu's stainlessness comparative. In this condition, this sāgara or ocean of stainlessness, the thought about the creation of a new world arises. Hence is it also called the bhava-sāgara; bhavana means becoming,

coming into existence, and pertains to a *va s̥thā* or condition ; ' a thing becomes ' means ' comes out of one condition into another condition '.

(Another interpretation however of the word *bhava-sāgara* is the tumultuous ocean of birth and death and rebirth from which escape is so difficult; and hence we find such statements as these :) Beholding this most fearful *bhava-sāgara*, one shore of which is the endless and the other shore the transcendent, and which is studded with the rocky islands of world-systems on which the hapless *jīva* is flung about and bruised and battered by the overwhelming waves of *karma* helplessly, the terrified and despairing *jīva* cries out to the ruler thereof : ' Save me, save me, take me across, O Bearer of the Discus ! ' Yet such is the cry of only him who knows the This alone and not also the Self and the Negation. He who knows the three has no need to cry out thus. He knows and says : ' As thou art, so am I, so are all these others. There is no crossing and no saving here. By the path by which thou hast arrived at thy estate, by that same path shall I arrive there too. Such is the law, and it must be fulfilled '. Thus, indeed, to know the three is to be saved.

Under these circumstances the use and justification of hymns, prayers, etc., is but this, *viz.*, that he who is the ruler of this world-system is

our chief, and when we say to him, 'save us,' we mean only that he should make plain to us the means of crossing over, the way by which we could go over to the place he himself occupies. For he who has trodden a path to a goal, he and he only knows all about the path, and from him only is it fitting to receive knowledge and instruction about it. It is true that the manner of treading that path is explained in the *Vedas* and the subsidiary sciences, and attainment of the goal will surely follow upon the *practice* of it; but (to study a work is also to appeal to its author for information and to receive it from him, and moreover) the practice cannot be had without making known the desire for it to those who can teach it. All kinds of knowledge are, no doubt, written down in the books, as 'this is so and this is so'. But the one so and the other so are not realised except in and by practice. The mere knowledge is fruitless. And knowledge can be put into practice only with the help of a competent guide. Thus, if an inhabitant of one country wishes to travel to another he may find out from written books in what direction from his own this other country lies, what other lands, rivers and oceans intervene, what roads and routes are available and so forth; yet it will be necessary for him to consult others who have

actually made the journey, for confirmation or correction of the information contained in the book; and, more, after he has received such confirmation, to seek for a companion and assistant to go with him to the desired place. It is true that sometimes persons start by themselves, without companions; but even so, they meet with companions on the road later on; and in any case, these are exceptional instances falling under special laws.

In this sense, then, the *jīva* may and should appeal for help to those who have trodden this path to *mukṭi* or to the ruler of the system. For all are the helpers of all, and all may appeal for help to all, and all may teach all, according to their needs and abilities, turn by turn. This is the virtue and significance of *saṭ-saṅga*, the company of the good; and such *saṭ-saṅga* only is the fruit of knowledge; for all are in essence equal and indeed the same. Otherwise, indeed, to know and not to know were the same. Knowledge is for this only that all may profit thereby, and this is rightly so and must be so, for knowledge, consciousness, is universal, and the Knower to whom it belongs is also universal.

When it is said that Mahā-Viṣṇu *sleeps* in his *nirmala-sāgara*, his 'pellucid and stainless ocean' or condition, it is not meant that he is

inactive. As said before, utter cessation of action never takes place.¹

Activity is as inseparable from all conditions as the affix *ḍā* (indicative of the incessant movement of time) is inseparable from the prefixes *ka*, *ṭa*, *ya*, etc., (indicative of special conditions) in the words *kaḍā*, *ṭaḍā*, *yaḍā*, when, then, whenever, (at what time, at that time, at whichever time) etc. So, even during sleep, Mahā-Viṣṇu, preoccupied with thoughts of extensive operations, revolves in mind the various methods thereof. *Sheṣha*, (literally the 'remainder' and mythologically the thousand-headed serpent who forms the couch of Mahā-Viṣṇu) is space. Because all is endless and transcendent, space is such also. In that area of space wherever there was or is a world-system, that portion is taken up, 'bound,' occupied and unavailable. What *remains*

¹ Activity on one plane is consonant with rest on another. The *jīva* is tireless, but the vehicles tire and wear out. Hence, that the body may sleep, the *jīva*, leaving it, energises another vehicle, and is active through it on another plane. And also, Mahā-Viṣṇu, sleeping in the ocean, is active in ideation on the creative plane, and the result is the growth of the Lotus, and the appearance of Brahmā, the creator on the planes of manifestation. (A.B.)

unoccupied is the *śheṣha*, and in that Mahā-Viṣṇu sleeps, *i.e.*, 'works,' 'ideates,' 'dreams'. Whence the tradition that 'the Lord, sleeping in the ocean of milk, creates this world'. Sleeping with *Lakṣmī* by his side signifies the presence of desire. Because desire is omnipresent therefore Mahā-Viṣṇu, possessed with it, performs his ideation in this remnant of space, desiring to create. Viṣṇu is born there, that is to say, an atom by evolution attains to that condition and receives a place near Mahā-Viṣṇu, by devotion to him. To him the instruction is given: 'Do you¹ perform the work of cognition'. Then *Brahmā* arises in the same way and is directed to perform all action. Finally, *Shiva* is born and taught to deal with desire. For himself Mahā-Viṣṇu reserves the function of 'holding together all,' the summation. The primary ideation is the *Gāyatrī*¹; the separate special instructions,

¹ The nature and significance of the *Gāyatrī* have been attempted to be explained in previous footnotes. With reference to those it may be asked, 'When the *Gāyatrī* is the effort of the ordinary human *jīva* to put itself in rapport with the Solar Logos, what can it mean in the mouth of the Solar Logos himself; what is meant by saying that *his* first ideation is the *Gāyatrī*?'. This is only another illustration of the continuum we meet with everywhere. In the mouth or mind of our Mahā-Viṣṇu

the *Mahā-vākyas*; the detailed exposition, the *Vedas*. After receiving the detailed exposition, Viṣṇu, Brahmā and Shiva entered on their respective functions. And when the work grew in their hands, they felt the need of and appointed subordinate workers. To these subordinates they expounded their own further ideations, and these are the *Brāhmaṇas*.

When it is said that summation is the work of Mahā-Viṣṇu it should not be understood that he has only this and no other work. He has his own special work under the instructions of his own superior Mahā-Viṣṇu, and also holds together his subordinate three gods. To his own Mahā-Viṣṇu, our Mahā-Viṣṇu is only one of many subordinates, Mahā-Shiva, Mahā-Brahmā, etc., even as Brahmā or Viṣṇu or Shiva is to him. It is not known to us whether he is specially devoted to cognition or action or desire,

the *Gāyatrī* would mean *his* effort to put himself in rapport with *his superior* Logos. The *Gāyatrī* expresses, so to say, a law, an abstraction, the concrete applications and illustrations of which are on all possible scales, infinitesimal as well as pseudo-infinite, as ought to be and is the case with all true laws of nature. The constant flow of life from parent to child along the whole endless course is the primary law of all 'creation,' and hence the *Gāyatrī* which expresses this flow is rightly the first ideation.

for our knowledge does not reach up to that stage. Because all powers appear in him, so far as our world-system is concerned, therefore we may infer that he has the office, the duty and the right of producing all three. It is declared in the *Mahā-vedas* however that this our Mahā-Viṣṇu is the cognition-official of the superior Mahā-Viṣṇu as the lord of summation.

But all this need not be discussed here, for such discussion is useless for us. It is enough for us to know that the transcendent Brahman is embodied in the universal AUM wherein the knowledge of endless Mahā-Viṣṇus is included and lies latent. Become we first like our Mahā-Viṣṇu; then will be time to think of higher reaches. That this matter has been touched on here at all is only to further illustrate and emphasise the endlessness that prevails everywhere in the World-process, because of the infinity of the Absolute Brahman.

Note :—The names of only a few of the *Brāhmaṇas* are now current; the better known are the *Aitareya* or *Āshvalūyana* and the *Kaushītakī* or *Sāṅkhyāyana* of the *R̥k*; *Śaṭapaṭha* of the *Yajuh*; *Pañchavimsha*, *Shad-vimsha* and *Tāndya* of the *Sāma*; and *Go-paṭha* of the *Atharva*. The text mentions the *Go-paṭha* and the *Saṭ-paṭha*. The modern spelling, it will be noticed, is *Shaṭa-paṭha* (the ‘hundred-branched,’ of the hundred-paths’) in place of *Saṭ-paṭha* (the ‘good-path’).

That is not compassed by the *Brahmāṇas*,
 With all their wealth of comment and detail ;
 No great-word and no root-word may enclose
 The ever-swelling greatness of the Self.
 Yet, in this seething ocean of the world,
 With currents of succession ordered well,
 And lawless-rushing billows of turmoil,
 Shoreless, with one long shore of endlessness,
 Another of transcendence,—our sole hope,
 Haven of rest, the Sameness of the Self !

शुभमस्तु सर्वजगताम्
 सर्वो भद्राणि पश्यतु
 लोकाः समस्ताः सुखिनो भवन्तु



PEACE TO ALL BEINGS.

End of Vol. I.

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